

'France plans to send judge to Libya'

CAIRO (AP) — France has agreed to send a judge to Libya to interrogate four Libyans suspected in the bombing of a French plane over Niger in 1988 that left 171 people killed. The state-owned newspaper Al-Ahram, reporting from New York, said France has officially notified the Arab League of the agreement. Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, who returned Saturday from a two-week visit to the United States, confirmed the newspaper report to Cairo reporters. He said sending a French judge comes within the framework of the French-Libyan problem but the crisis between the United States, Britain and Libya which is the "crux" of the crisis remained unmet. Two other Libyans are wanted for trial either in the United States or Britain for their alleged involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland. The explosion left 270 people killed in 1988. Libya insists that the suspected be tried at home. Mr. Moussa expressed belief that the French agreement represented a starting point for a comprehensive solution of Libya's crisis with the West through United Nations channels. Mr. Moussa said United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Ghali and Libya Foreign Minister Ibrahim Al-Sisi plan to hold a series of meetings beginning Monday.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الراية

Document seeks radical Saudi reforms

PARIS (AP) — A part of Saudi Arabia's religious hierarchy is seeking profound reforms in all spheres of life in the kingdom, according to a document reportedly sent to King Fahd and cited by the French news agency. The 45-page document denounces "corruption," seeks the cancellation of military treaties incompatible with the country's sovereignty and asks that only Muslim foreign forces be called on to defend the country in case of real need, according to Agence France-Presse (AFP). The agency said the "memorandum of recommendation," dated July and addressed to King Fahd, is signed by 107 members of the religious hierarchy including theologians and professors. It is preceded by supporting letters from four religious leaders, the agency said without naming them. AFP said it received a copy of the document at its Paris headquarters from a Saudi opposition source. It is not clear whether the document was actually sent to the king. Should the document be authentic, it would be an unusual sign of opposition in the kingdom. The document seeks radical changes in the political, social and economic spheres among others.

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King receives Moroccan, Yemeni greetings

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a message from King Hassan II of Morocco voicing congratulations for his safe return home after successful surgery in the United States. The message was conveyed by Prince Hashim Ben Abdullah, an envoy of King Hassan, at the Royal Court. King Hussein asked that the prince convey Jordan's greetings to King Hassan and wishes for further progress and prosperity for Morocco. Prince Hashim left Amman later Saturday. He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein. King Hussein also received a telephone call from Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who congratulated him on his safe return home. The King voiced appreciation of the president's call and wished the Yemeni people continued progress.

Car-licensing deadline extended

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet approved in a session held Saturday, a recommendation by Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh to extend by two weeks the deadline given to Jordanian expatriates who returned home from Kuwait and other Gulf states to license their cars. The Cabinet stipulated that these cars should have been registered with the Customs Department before Oct. 1 and should have all the provisions set by the Cabinet so as to benefit from the exemption. The Council of Ministers also approved a recommendation by Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber appointing Judge Abdul Majeed Al Gharibeh as Jordan's commissioner at the Arab Investment Court.

Sudan plans projects in disputed Halalib

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan is planning water projects in the potentially oil-rich Halalib border triangle it is contesting with Egypt, a Khartoum daily reported Saturday. Al Sudan Al Hadith said the Khartoum government had commissioned studies on the availability of water in Halalib and has plans to dig wells to bring the water to the surface. The dispute between Cairo and Khartoum over the largely empty desert area flared last January. Egypt has in the past few months doubled its border posts in the Halalib triangle, and boosted the Egyptian state's presence by symbolic moves such as television broadcasting from the area and sending state religious officials to register mosques.

Sudan pledges new push against rebels

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military leader has announced stepped-up operations by the army and militia in this year's largely successful offensive to crush southern rebels. If successful, the attack that Omar Hassan Al-Bashir announced Friday night would extend a string of victories by government forces this year. But a significant escalation in hostilities also would be likely to send thousands of civilians fleeing north, exacerbating already serious refugee and famine problems. In a speech at a public rally near Khartoum, Lieutenant-General Bashir said the second phase in the government's general offensive, "Operation Summer Crossing," would be launched soon. But he did not specify when.

Man in crowd assaults Kohl

SCHWERIN, Germany (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl was physically assaulted by a man in a crowd following him on a walkabout after German Unity Day ceremonies Saturday. Witnesses in the East German city of Schwerin saw a man in dark clothing barge his way through Mr. Kohl's bodyguards and strike the chancellor in the stomach. The blow knocked the burly Kohl off balance and the assailant immediately fled. Mr. Kohl appeared shaken but not seriously hurt. Earlier, several dozen young leftist militants shouted abuse at Mr. Kohl and lobbed two eggs which fell short of him.

King: Islam has no secret political ideology aimed at achieving gains

Royal directives issued to set up and guide work of Al al Bait University

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein said Saturday that teaching Islam in Jordan was based on understanding the faith and persuasion and did not depend on preaching and giving sermons. "Islam does not hide secret objectives used as a camouflage to bring in political ideology or to achieve gains at the individual or the factional levels," the King said.

In a message to Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King discussed the objectives of the new university to be set up at Mafraq under the name of "Al al Bait University for Arts and Sciences."

He noted that Jordan was in need of a new and unique type of universities that can embody science and religion at the same time and can attain conformity and accord that will build "an Arab Muslim personality capable of acting within the environment of the modern age."

King Hussein instructed the prime minister to take practical

steps to set up the Al al Bait University for Arts and Sciences and that the university "should create a community where free expression is at its foundation." "This university should help create a society where various groups and people of differing faiths and principles can interact while retaining the long-established traditions of tolerance and coexistence," King Hussein said.

The King announced plans for the creation of the university in a speech last August when he said the university should serve as his gift to the Arab and Islamic nations.

The King, who made the announcement at the graduation ceremony of a batch of army officers from the Royal War College, said that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan would chair the new university's constituent assembly, which would include elite scholars from the Arab and Islamic worlds.

In his message to the prime minister, the King said that "the

social, cultural and political framework of the new university should attain high standards of teaching and help crystallize values within an atmosphere of complete freedom of speech."

"Since the Arabic language is the language of the Holy Koran, it should be the main language of teaching at the new university in addition to the languages of other nations," the King said.

In Jordan, he said, "we understand Islam as openness and tolerance in its true image and as a way of life which does not seek to impose itself on anyone."

"The political system in Jordan has been established and developed over the past 70 years on the principles of freedom, justice and tolerance. In such climate only can the Al al Bait University progress and flourish and play its role as a distinguished world centre," the King said.

King Hussein said: "It is wrong to divide contemporary cultures as Arab and non-Arab because

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U.N. votes to seize Iraqi funds; Baghdad calls it 'Texas-style robbery'

Combined agency despatches

THE SECURITY COUNCIL has voted to seize an estimated \$1 billion of Iraqi oil money abroad to compensate victims of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and pay for U.N. weapons inspections.

The vote Friday marked the first time the United Nations has seized a nation's money. The money, most of it in the United States, will also be used to pay for humanitarian aid to dissident Kurds and Shiites in Iraq.

In Baghdad Saturday, Iraqis reacted with rage.

"The Security Council's decision is an illegal act of confiscation, a modified form of bank robbery Texas-style," Information Minister Hamed Yousef Hammadi said in a statement. The statement said the council decided to "confiscate Iraq people's deposits with foreign banks, at the same time the Iraqi government was negotiating with the U.N. to export \$4 billion worth of oil."

The resolution was approved

by 14 votes to nil with China abstaining.

Mr. Hammadi said: "The United States, Britain and France, as any group of thieves, sought to make this act of robbery under the disguise of the Security Council."

He added that what happened at the council meeting was a shame to its record.

"This council has become a tool used by the United States. The member states which agreed to this resolution seemed to have accepted such an outrageous, shameful attitude," Mr. Hammadi said.

Mr. Hammadi said: The robbery of the Iraqi people's funds is proof of the moral deterioration, frustration and failure of U.S. and British governments.

"This new crime will never weaken the resolve of the Iraqis. Rather, it will enhance their hatred to colonialist thieves who never abide by ethical or legal codes of behaviour," he added. The minister said the resolution was exceptional, odd and

unnecessary — especially because negotiations between Iraq and the U.N. had made some progress.

Mr. Hammadi praised China "for its objective attitude" but expressed surprise at Morocco's support for the resolution.

Iraq has been able to use some of its frozen funds abroad to purchase humanitarian supplies exempt under the sanctions. But the new resolution blocks these provisions and will force states to channel such funds through the United Nations.

Saturday's Baghdad newspapers ignored the resolution and highlighted Iraq's offer to sell oil worth \$4 billion.

The proposal has already slashed the value of the U.S. dollar against the dinar.

The Iraqi currency traded at 23 to the dollar in Baghdad on Friday after previously slipping to almost 40 to one. The official rate is \$3 to the dinar.

On Friday, Iraqi Foreign

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Qatar demands Saudi 'pullout' from border post; Arabs start mediation

DOHA (Agencies) — Qatar Saturday demanded that Saudi forces withdraw from allegedly occupying a Qatari frontier post in a midweek border clash in which two people were killed.

The Arabs, notably Kuwait and Egypt, meanwhile stepped up their mediation bids to contain the dispute between Saudi Arabia and its small neighbor.

The official Qatari News Agency (QNA) said Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad Ben Jasssem Ben Jabr Al Thani summoned Saudi Ambassador Abdul Rahman Al Shibli.

He handed the envoy "a protest memorandum... on the unjustified attack by Saudi military forces on Qatar's Al Khofous post."

The agency said the foreign minister then met the ambassadors of Russia, the United States, Britain, France and China to explain what happened.

He also affirmed his country's demand for early negotiations with Saudi Arabia for agreement on final definition and demarcation of borders.

Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah flew to Saudi Arabia and Qatar to

mediate in the dispute amid conflicting versions of what happened along the frontier on Wednesday.

Sheikh Saad intervened in the conflict after President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt telephoned King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and the emir of Qatar Friday.

Later in the day, the Qatari Foreign Ministry affirmed it wanted a peaceful settlement to the dispute but that the Saudi forces "must withdraw from the Qatari post and Qatari personnel must be allowed to reposition themselves there."

The statement stressed "the necessity of solving differences among our Gulf states by peaceful means... and rejecting resort to force or threat of force as a means of solving these differences."

Saudi Arabia has expressed astonishment at what it said was Qatari exaggeration of an accidental border incident, and has expressed keenness to settle the issue amicably.

Riyadh has rejected Qatar's claim that Saudi forces were involved in the violence Wednesday, in which two people were killed. The kingdom claims the

exchange of fire involved only Saudi and Qatari bedouins within Saudi territory.

It also has denied Qatar's claim that Saudi forces returned a day later to besiege the Al Khofous post, 130 kilometers south of Doha, and forced Qatari personnel to evacuate.

There has been no independent report from Al Khofous.

Qatari-Saudi borders are governed by a 1965 agreement reached with British involvement six years before British forces left the area and Qatar became an independent state.

It was one of a series of similar border arrangements initiated by the British between what are now independent Gulf states, leaving several simmering disputes in the oil-rich region.

On Saturday, the Iranian newspaper Tehran Times condemned what it called Saudi Arabia's use of force against Qatar and said Iran was ready to defend regional states against the Saudis.

The newspaper, quoted by the official Islamic Republic News Agency, said the kingdom "has for a long time had hegemonic

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JOYOUS WELCOME: Members of the Armed Forces Saturday extend a boisterous welcome to His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, during a visit he paid to the General Headquarters (GHQ) of the Armed Forces. It was the King's first visit to the GHQ after his return home Sept. 24 following successful surgery and recuperation abroad. The welcome ceremony at the GHQ was attended by the chairman of the Joint

Chiefs of Staff, director-generals of the General Intelligence, Public Security and Civil Defence Departments and senior Armed Forces officials. Following the ceremony, the King held a meeting with the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Royal Court Chief Khaleel Al Karaki (Petra photo)

Crown Prince leaves for U.S., Belgium and Britain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan left Amman Saturday on a working trip that would take him to the United States, Belgium and the United Kingdom.

Prince Hassan, who was seen off by His Majesty King Hussein, will deliver a series of lectures during his visit to the United States addressed to a number of higher academic institutions dealing with Arab views concerning world peace.

In Belgium, Prince Hassan will meet a number of officials including the head of the commission of the European Community (EC) and senior EC officials to discuss Jordan's relations with the community.

In Britain, Prince Hassan will deliver lectures at Oxford University on world refugees.

The lectures will be in the course of a programme of studies on refugees partly financed by Prince Hassan himself. The programme deals with the condition of refugees and their social, political and human rights.

Syria rules out summit with Israel as Dumas begins visit

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria Saturday ruled out any summit with Israel in the near future, saying Israel's call for one was aimed at undermining the Middle East peace process.

Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa repeated Syria's position to reporters as his French counterpart arrived in Damascus to continue France's growing effort to advance the peace process.

"We made our view very clear during my address to the U.N. General Assembly in New York. We said that higher level of talks are meant to undermine the mechanism of the Madrid peace conference," Mr. Sharaa said.

Mr. Sharaa voiced Syria's appreciation and support for a greater French and European role in pushing forward the talks between Israel and the Arabs which started with the Madrid conference a year ago.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas told Reuters his talks in Damascus were a continuation of meetings he had in Syria and in New York recently with President Hafez Al Assad and Mr. Sharaa in which he offered French help in advancing the

regional dialogue. "I thought it was interesting while I was in the region to stop over here in Syria again to continue discussion on all the subjects mentioned on our last meetings in Syria and in New York," Mr. Dumas said.

Asked whether he was carrying any specific formula for furthering the peace process, Mr. Dumas said only that he would "discuss all points on all subjects in the region."

Dumas was meeting Mr. Assad later Saturday. He is scheduled to fly to Cairo on Sunday and then on to Tel Aviv.

Israeli newspapers reported earlier that during his visit Dr. Dumas would try to arrange a meeting between President Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

While Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres proposed such a meeting in an address to the U.N. General Assembly earlier in the week, Mr. Rabin said this would be premature.

Progress in the peace talks is stalled by the Syrian-Israeli difference over complete withdrawal.

Mr. Sharaa reiterated the Syrian position in his U.N. speech, saying that the Israelis were mistaken if they believed that peace could be achieved "without complete Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied territories."

The Dumas trip reflects a new French drive to assist in the search for a Middle East settlement.

This in turn indicates an effort by the European Community (EC) for a stronger role in the peace process.

Jordan: No quick solution

Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber told an Arab magazine Saturday that the Arab-Israeli conflict can not be settled overnight noting that the negotiations would last a long time and require a lot of patience.

The minister told Al Shura magazine published in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that discussion about a confederation between the East and West banks is premature because the peace

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Golanis join Palestinian strike in Israeli jails

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

(Agencies) — Druze prisoners from the occupied Golan Heights have joined a hunger-strike led by Palestinians, relatives of the Druze prisoners said Saturday as they demonstrated in the Golan.

About 200 people gathered outside the International Red Cross office in Majdal Shams, the largest Druze village in the Golan Heights, said Mohammed Safadi, director of the office.

The demonstrators were protesting against "unbearable" prison conditions, a statement released by "families of the prisoners" said.

The Druze also called upon Israel to withdraw from the Golan, said Fahri Al Maket, a Druze journalist who participated in the demonstration.

Mr. Maket said two of his brothers were imprisoned. Twenty-seven Golan Druze are being held by Israel for "security" offences, Mr. Safadi said.

About 16,000 Druze live in a cluster of Golan Villages near the border with Syria.

The Druze said they were joining their Palestinian "comrades" in the six-day-old hunger-strike to improve prison conditions.

Palestinian leaders said that 5,000 Palestinian prisoners, most of them jailed for nationalist activities during the 4½-year uprising against Israeli rule in the occupied territories, are on an open hunger strike.

Relatives of the Palestinian prisoners have demonstrated nearly every day this week at Red Cross offices throughout the occupied West Bank and Jerusalem.

2 shot dead

Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank shot dead two Palestinians who failed to obey orders to halt, the army said.

Arab sources said a group of five soldiers entered the town of Kabatiyeh, near Jenin, disguised as Palestinian men and women. The clash began when residents stoned the undercover unit, the reports said.

An army spokesman would not confirm if the soldiers were acting undercover, but noted that "soldiers don't always approach in jeeps."

The army said one of the victims, Mohammad Zadi Mahmud Ikmal, 23, was wanted in connection with attacks on soldiers and the deaths of several Palestinians suspected of collaboration with Israeli authorities.

Arab reporters identified the second victim as Mohammad Ahmad Nazad, 27, also from Kabatiyeh.

In Gaza, Fadil Suleiman Amara from Rafah refugee camp was shot in the head by an underground enforcement squad affiliated with Fateh, Arab reports said.

Amar was accused on collaboration with Israel.

On Saturday, soldiers clashed with Palestinians outside the Red Cross office in Hebron shooting in the air and firing sound bombs, but Red Cross officials said there were no injuries.

Israeli troops shot and wounded five Palestinians during demon-

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France 'is not taking over U.S. role in peace efforts'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — France is not taking over the United States' role in the Middle East peace process and has no intention to do so or act on behalf of Washington because of the American preoccupation with presidential elections as some reports suggest, French diplomatic sources said Saturday.

The sources, in separate comments to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, and the Jordan Times, said that the shuttle diplomacy of French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas to the Middle East was aimed at strengthening the European Community's (EC) role in efforts to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"If in the bargain we can narrow the differences among the various parties involved, we will be glad to do so," said the source who spoke to the Jordan Times.

The source, who preferred anonymity, explained that France believed that there cannot be "real peace in the Middle East without comprehensively addressing all aspects of the conflict," and that such a solution could come only through the broad framework of the United Nations.

"We are against Camp David-style solutions since piecemeal agreements cannot and will not solve the Middle East problem," said the diplomat, referring to the separate peace agreement that Egypt and Israel signed in 1979.

In the meantime, France supports the ongoing (American-Russian co-sponsored) process hoping that it would make prog-

ress towards a solution within the framework of the U.N.," added the source. "However, at no point France will take over the American role or act on behalf of Washington in Middle East peace-making."

Franco-Israeli relations have improved in the wake of the return to power of the Israeli Labour Party led by Yitzhak Rabin and his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, "who is a personal friend of President (Francois) Mitterrand," the source said.

"We would like to use this improvement in relations to further strengthen the European role in efforts for peace in the Middle East," the diplomat added, noting that there was now movement in Israel to give Europe a higher-profile role in Arab-Israeli peace-making.

The source also welcomed "Israeli moves to involve the United Nations" in the peace process after a meeting between Mr. Rabin and U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali. "But these moves, which do not give a full and strong participatory role for the U.N., are not enough," the diplomat added.

Petra meanwhile quoted a French source as saying that Mr. Dumas, who arrived in Damascus Saturday, would also be meeting Palestinians in occupied Jerusalem, indicating that the French foreign minister's mission was not limited to a so-called mediation between Syria and Israel.

The source told the news agency that during a visit to France by

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Turkey mourns sailors killed by U.S. missile

ANKARA (AP) — Turkey is mourning five sailors killed in an accident during military exercises with the United States, and officials are trying to determine why the U.S. aircraft carrier Saratoga fired the fatal missile.

The Washington Post and the New York Times reported Saturday that human error may have led to Thursday's accident, which killed the ship's commanding officer, Captain Kudret Gungor, and four sailors. Eleven others were injured, four seriously.

The Anatolia news agency quoted Vice-Admiral Philip Durr, speaking to reporters at a briefing Friday aboard the Saratoga, as saying that the ship's Sparrow air-defence system had previously fired prematurely, but never caused a fatal accident.

Vice-Adm. Durr said that during a battle, the RIM-7M missile that blasted the Muavenet during an exercise Thursday night would be locked onto a radar-identified target and would fire automatically.

But in exercises, the weapon system could be fired manually, Anatolia quoted him as saying.

The Post, citing unnamed sources said to be familiar with the investigation, reported that the firing sequence began in a "local operating station," and that the ship's central command issued no firing orders.

The Post said such local operating stations routinely conduct their own drills and maintenance procedures that mimic an actual missile firing.

The Times reported that investigators would try to determine whether sailors on the Saratoga fired the ship's radar on the Turkish ship and simulated the firing sequence, only to belatedly discover that safeguards were turned off or malfunctioning.

Both the Post Times reported that mechanical failure was unlikely.

The ships were sailing only five kilometres apart during a non-firing stage of the annual exercise.

U.S. naval officials were shown on Turkish television aboard the carrier showing how the missiles could have left their ramps without the precautionary steps required for firing.

Turkish television ran footage of the 3,370-tonne Muavenet, a World War II era destroyer commissioned as the USS Gwin and given to Turkey in 1971, with a smouldering mangle of black metal where the bridge used to be.

A large canvas cover was seen thrown over the command and navigation centre that was hit by one of two missiles fired from the Saratoga.

The stricken vessel was being towed to the main Turkish naval

base at Golecek, 110 kilometres east of Istanbul, and was expected to cross the Dardanelles Strait Saturday morning. Treacherous currents in the waterway were deemed too dangerous for nighttime navigation.

Official at Golecek said the ship might arrive as late as Monday. Helicopters from the Saratoga on Friday flew the five flag-draped coffins to the western Turkish port of Izmir.

President George Bush telephoned President Turgut Ozal and Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel Friday to express his sorrow.

Mr. Bush promised that a "full and complete investigation of this tragic accident would be undertaken" and offered "profound sympathy for the families of the victims," according to a White House statement.

Officials from both countries sought to prevent political fallout from the accident, which comes at a time of geopolitical uncertainty that gives Turkey and the United States compelling reasons to remain friendly.

But others sought to use the tragedy to drive a wedge between Ankara and its Western allies. Necmettin Erbakan, a Muslim fundamentalist politician opposed to Turkey's membership of the North Atlantic Treaty

Organisation (NATO) called for "keen attention" by Turks, noting that the missile incident had taken place at a time "when the west was supporting the massacre of Muslims throughout the world."

Nihat Topuz, a retired Turkish naval officer, voiced suspicions that the Muavenet, which was the flagship during the 1974 Turkish invasion of Cyprus, might have been deliberately targeted by a hostile crew member of the Saratoga.

"The ethnic background of those in the fire control room of the U.S. carrier should be carefully checked," he said. "They might be Armenians or Greeks."

Turkey sent troops to Cyprus in support of the island's ethnic Turkish community after a coup by ethnic Greeks against the island's government.

Mr. Demirel said he believed the missile-firing was an accident and "did not want to raise suspicions." He pledged every effort to determine the truth.

Defence Minister Nevzat Ayaz said that Turkey might seek compensation.

NATO's top commander, General John M. Shalikashvili, promised "a quick and full investigation." He said a U.S. naval investigator was already aboard the Turkish destroyer.

U.S. court orders two Iraqi banks to pay \$70m

NEW YORK (AP) — A pair of Iraqi banks has been ordered by a federal judge to repay loans and interest of more than \$70 million to the Commercial Bank of Kuwait — money loaned to help finance Iraq's war with Iran.

The two banks, Rafidain Bank and the Central Bank of Iraq, were accused of defaulting on \$1 billion in loans after the United Nations imposed sanctions on the country over its invasion of Kuwait.

The Kuwait bank sued to get payment of its portion of the loans, and U.S. District Court Judge Leonard B. Sand Thursday ordered the Iraqi banks to come up with more than \$70 million.

"The defendants' default was willful... the defendants did not have meritorious defences," said the five-page decision from Sand. An attorney for the Kuwait bank said it hoped to unfreeze Iraqi assets in the United States to collect the judgement.

The grand totals ordered paid by Mr. Sand: \$35,455,199.48 from the Rafidain Bank, and \$35,922,869.72 from the Central Bank of Iraq. Each had loans of more than \$28 million; the payoff total includes interest and attorneys' fees.

Ed Powers, the Manhattan-based attorney for the two banks, said he did not know of any schedule for payment of the orders.

"Our clients' assets are all frozen in this country. If they were unfrozen, is there enough to pay? That's a tough question. I don't know," said Mr. Powers.

Plantiff's attorney Donald Luke of Rogers and Wells said the \$1.4 billion in frozen assets was an attractive target, but the final decision on that will come from the U.S. government.

Payments on the loan were made on time until Aug. 1, 1990, the suit charged. The country suspended loan repayments and repudiated its international debt after the U.N. enforced sanctions against the country.

The Bank of New York has an outstanding lawsuit against the two countries, seeking \$22.6 million for its part of the debt.

Two loans of \$500 million were made to Iraq during its 1980s war with Iran. The loans were made to the government-owned Rafidain Bank and guaranteed by the Central Bank, court papers said.

A 1983 loan was made by 35 banks; the second loan, two years later, was made by 25 banks. The Bank of Kuwait was the lead bank on the loans.

Call for Droogoul release

Christopher Droogoul, the ex-banker facing trial for making secret loans to Iraq, should be released from prison because of charges has "cast doubt" on the charges against him, his attorney said Friday.

Defence attorneys filed a motion in U.S. district court asking Judge Marvin Shook to reinstate a \$100,000 bond for Mr. Droogoul. Mr. Shook revoked the bond earlier this year, partly because of the weight of the evidence against Mr. Droogoul, who was charged in a 347-count bank fraud indictment.

On Thursday, Mr. Shook threw out Mr. Droogoul's guilty plea to 60 of the counts after a three-week sentencing hearing, clearing the way for a trial. During the hearing, the judge said he had become convinced that Mr. Droogoul's superior at Italy's Banca Nazionale del Lavoro (BNL) knew of the loans.

"The defendant's position is supported by the tentative conclusions of (Mr. Shook), which, in effect cast doubt on the charges of fraud and money laundering, which comprise well over two-thirds of the indictment," Friday's defence motion said.

The motion added that guilty pleas of six co-defendants, including five bank subsidiaries and a Turkish trading company, may be drawn into question because of recent developments in the Droogoul case.

Israeli document shows Bush knew of Iran scam

WASHINGTON (AP) — A top-secret Israeli document shows President George Bush was told more than he has acknowledged about the arms-for-hostages scheme with Iran, two sources who have studied the document have said.

The document is the account of the late Amiram Nir, then an adviser to Israel's prime minister. It described a briefing he provided to then-Vice President Bush in 1986, said the sources who spoke Friday only on condition of anonymity.

The sources, who are familiar with the document, declined to reveal further details.

Mr. Bush's account of his involvement in the Iran-contra affair has surfaced anew in recent weeks as former Reagan administration officials challenged Mr. Bush's longstanding assertion that he was "out of the loop."

The Israeli document would support the assertions last week by Richard Secord and Howard Teicher that Mr. Bush knew more of the affair than he has publicly stated, the sources said. They would not further describe the document.

So far, the only public accounting of the briefing was provided by Mr. Bush and by Mr. Bush's then Chief-of-Staff Craig Fuller, who also attended the July 29, 1986, meeting at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.

ABC Television's "Nightline" reported Friday that Mr. Nir, in his detailed document, said Mr. Fuller's account contained "many mistakes, few of them essential."

In the Feb. 9, 1987, memo for the Israeli prime minister, only four copies of which exist, Mr. Nir also wrote that he had ex-

plained to Mr. Bush that the Iranians involved in the scheme were "clearly the most extreme," the television report said.

Mr. Bush has said several times that he believed the contacts were with moderate Iranians who might some day be friendly towards the United States.

Mr. Fuller's memo of the 25-minute meeting, published in 1987, said Mr. Nir described how a deal was struck to supply Iran 4,000 "units" in return for all the American hostages held by Iranian-backed extremists in Lebanon.

The memo did not say what "units" but subsequent information revealed they were Tow anti-tank missiles.

Mr. Nir, according to Fuller's memo, said Israel's role in the affair was: "We gave a front for the operation, provided a physical base, provided aircraft."

Mr. Bush, asked about Mr. Nir's briefing in a 1988 interview with the CBS anchorman Dan Rather, said: "I was told what they were doing, and not what we were doing, and that's a big difference."

Mr. Bush has also consistently claimed that the whole arms-for-hostages affair did not become clear to him until more than a month after the scandal erupted into the open in November 1986.

Mr. Nir, according to Mr. Fuller's account, told Mr. Bush that Israel had intercepted a message from Tehran to the kidnappers. Three days later, Mr. Nir said, three hostages were moved and then a fourth was placed in a car trunk and driven out.

The fourth was in fact freed on July 26, three days before Mr. Bush's briefing.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel closes Palestinian press office

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli authorities ordered a Palestinian press service to close for a year Friday saying it posed a threat to Israeli "security." An order signed by the military commander of Israel's central region said closing the Ascal Press Service in East Jerusalem "is necessary for the benefit of public safety and order." It was the first closure of a Palestinian press office since the new Labour-led government was elected in June. Several Palestinian press services in the occupied territories provide information on the nearly five-year-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

Tunisian urges stand against extremism

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Tunisia's foreign minister called Friday for collective action to isolate extremist and terrorist groups that he said sheltered behind religion. In a speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Habib Ben Yahia said Tunisia was deeply attached to its Arab-Islamic identity and believed deeply in the message of openness, brotherhood and coexistence preached by its Muslim faith and by other religions. "Accordingly, concerned to prevent religion being turned aside from its true path to protect human rights and civil society from the actions of those who exploit religion in order to attain their objectives, Tunisia has decided to set extremism and terrorism in their true context," he said. Alluding to fundamentalist groups that have grown increasingly active in his own and a number of other Arab countries, he said Tunisia "believes that it is time to adopt a collective position regarding this phenomenon and to cooperate sincerely in order to isolate the extremist and terrorist groups sheltering behind religion." The aim would be to "protect the interests of our peoples and our states and create conditions conducive to confronting the true problems, taking up the challenges and protecting religion against all attempts to exploit and manipulate it."

U.N. chief blames Sudan rebels for killings

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Bontros Ghali said he was shocked by the killings of three relief workers and a journalist in southern Sudan and blamed the rebel Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA). In a statement, the U.N. chief said he was "shocked by this senseless taking of human lives, all the more so since the individuals were in the area as a part... of a relief effort." The dead were a Burmese staff member of the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), Myint Maung, his staff driver Kenyan Francis Ngyre, a Filipino nurse with the aid group Interaid, and Norwegian journalist Helge Hummelvoll. Dr. Ghali said he considered the SPLA accountable for these deaths, because members of the U.N. mission were last seen in their custody. "It is imperative that the parties involved take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of humanitarian relief workers," he said.

Ex-hostage Anderson quits job as reporter

NEW YORK (R) — Terry Anderson, the American journalist held hostage in Lebanon for nearly seven years by extremists, said Friday he was resigning from the Associated Press. Mr. Anderson, who was freed in December after seven years chained to a cot and near daily beatings, told 200 newspaper executives at a meeting of the New England Newspaper Association at the meeting. An AP spokeswoman confirmed that Mr. Anderson has resigned. Louis D. Boccardi, president of the AP, in a statement called Mr. Anderson "a model of courage and strength that will always be treasured." Mr. Anderson, the former chief Middle East correspondent for the AP, is writing a book about the ordeal.

Two Russian ships expected in Gulf

MOSCOW (AP) — Two Russian warships are expected to arrive in the Gulf Sunday under an agreement by Russia to help enforce U.N. sanctions against Iraq, the Interfax news agency said. The anti-submarine ship Admiral Vinogradov and escort tanker Boris Butoma sailed last month from the Far Eastern port of Vladivostok and were to arrive in the Gulf on Oct. 4, the Interfax news agency said, quoting an unnamed source in the Russian Defence Ministry. The ships will coordinate with U.S., British and French warships already stationed in the Gulf, the news agency said. Interfax quoted the source as saying the ships were "combat-ready" and were authorised to fire in self-defence, although Russian officials hoped they would not have to use their guns. The Russian ships were expected to leave the Gulf on Dec. 4 and return to Vladivostok, Interfax said.

Iraq to resume work on petrochemicals plant

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq, under severe United Nations sanctions for the past 26 months, said Friday it would resume building of a "strategic" petrochemicals complex abandoned by foreign companies two years ago because of the sanctions. The Iraqi News Agency said the Military Industrialisation Commission had started work on the "strategic petrochemicals complex, the biggest of its kind in the Middle East," since last April with its own designs and technical expertise. It said foreign companies, which started work on the project in December 1989 left the site in October, a year later, because of the sanctions. It said the project contained 35 production units which would supply raw materials used by local industries including rubber, plastic, paints, medicines, perfumes and cosmetics, fertilisers, yarn and chlorine used in water purification. It did not say how Iraq would obtain the project's equipment and machinery nor give the location of the project, but previous reports said it was about 60 kilometres south of Baghdad.

WFP gives Yemen \$5.9 million

ADEN, Yemen (R) — The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) agreed Friday to grant Yemen \$5.9 million to fund a water resources and soil protection project near Aden, Yemeni officials said. The agreement was reached at the end of talks between a WFP delegation and Yemen's planning ministry. Part of the aid would be used to encourage farmers to increase coffee and lemon production, the officials said. The WFP financed several projects in former South Yemen in the late 1980s, including construction of roads and schools, land reclamation and fisheries cooperatives. North and South Yemen united in May 1990.

To His Majesty King Hussein



Words cannot really describe what I want to say,
So I've tried to do it in this very special way.
It takes a while to realize what joy it adds to living,
To have a king who is fully good at giving.
It seems that all Jordanians share this blessing and know our king's worth,
And wouldn't trade his love and care for anything on Earth.

Welcome Home!

Respectfully Yours,
Tamir and Tamara
Hassan Shaaban

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 73111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Michael Vaillant
17:55 Des Chiffres et des lettres
18:15 Le Chanson Ann Chansons
18:40 News French
19:15 The Scientific Magazine
20:30 Coach
21:10 Documentary: Japan Dreaming
22:00 News in English
22:30 Midnight Caller "Play Blotto and Die"

PRAYER TIMES

06:58 Fajr
08:25 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:36 Dhuhr
15:49 'Asr
18:27 Maghreb
19:44 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich
Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637440.
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terzian Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel.
633541.
Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel.
628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775261.
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church Tel.
685326.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
811295.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932.
Church of the Nazareth Tel. 675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

It will be relatively hot and dusty,
and some clouds will appear at various
altitudes. Winds will be light and vari-
able, changing at times to easterly
moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be
northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 16 / 32
Aqaba 23 / 36
Dead Sea 14 / 35
Jordan Valley 20 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-
man 31, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings:
Amman 15 per cent, Aqaba 20 per
cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE
NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Salameh Al Daboubi 776751
Dr. Rami Muzari 994788
Dr. Joseph Insh 770560
Dr. Saad Ali (-)
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asana pharmacy 637025
Nairokh pharmacy 626772
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shimeloni pharmacy 637660
Fifth circle pharmacy 613141
Samir pharmacy 661898
Tahar pharmacy 621366
Ya'ish pharmacy 624425
Al Atas pharmacy 777712
Al Azzoud pharmacy 888681
Hisham pharmacy 771957

DRBD:
Dr. Amin Abu Eida 244468
Alqods pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:
Dr. Rajah Saqr 901290
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Public Security Department 63032
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121
Outreach Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdell Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 681000
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53300

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hamid Medical Centre 818313/2
Khadija Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Alkhil Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mathias, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Samman 6641714
Shuaim Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845445
Al-Musader Hospital 6672719
The Islamic, Abdell 66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdell 6641646
Islamic, Abdell (RU) 771013
Islamic, J. Abdell 77511126
Army, Marika 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224030
Amal Hospital 674125
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Bin Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hissa Modern Hospital (09)986732
EBRD:
Princess Betana Hospital (02)272555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272273
Bin Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)914111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal
Jordanian (RJ) Information depart-
ment at the Queen Alia International
Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it
should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

06:00 Jeddah (RJ)
06:10 Lahore (RJ)
06:15 Aqaba (RJ)
06:30 Damascus (RJ)
06:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
06:30 Madras (RJ)
06:45 Cairo (RJ)
06:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
07:30 Brussels, Paris (RJ)
07:35 London (RJ)
08:25 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
08:30 Athens (RJ)
09:45 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
19:45 Vienna (RJ)
20:00 Rome (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Beirut (ME)
11:30 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
13:45 Moscow (RU)
14:25 Lahore (CY)
19:20 Cairo (ME)
19:30 Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights
(Terminal 1)

06:00 Madrid (RJ)
06:30 Brussels (RJ)
06:35 Madrid (RJ)
06:30 New Delhi (RJ)
06:30 Damascus (RJ)
06:30 Frankfurt (RJ)
07:00 Aqaba (RJ)
07:10 Rome (RJ)
07:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:00 Rome (RJ)
11:00 Vienna (RJ)
11:15 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)
11:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:10 Cairo (RJ)
12:45 Riyadh (RJ)
12:50 Madras (RJ)
20:30 Cairo (RJ)
21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
21:30 New Delhi (RJ)
21:45 Bangkok (RJ)
22:45 Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)
22:45 Seoul (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

07:25 Beirut (ME)
10:30 Beirut, Rome (AZ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (red) 600 / 550
Banana (Mekum) 450 / 400
Beans 400 / 350
Cabbage 130 / 80
Carrot 400 / 350
Cauliflower 200 / 200
Cucumbers (large) 120 / 80
Cucumbers (small) 240 / 180
Eggplant 80 / 40
Garlic 600 / 500
Lentils 220 / 150
Marrow (large) 380 / 350
Marrow (small) 180 / 120
Onion (dry) 200 / 150
Pepper (hot) 150 / 100
Pepper (sweet) 300 / 250
Potato 100 / 50
Tomato 300 / 200
Fig 500 / 450
Guava 300 / 250
Green Grapes 350 / 300
Green Grapes 350 / 300
Dates 500 / 400
Pineapple 300 / 250
Pomegranate 300 / 250
Squash

Dialogue on merger continues as parties apply for registration

By Mariam M. Shabbat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Political groups and parties Saturday continued dialogue on the formation of alliances as another party applied for registration at the Ministry of Interior on the second day after the Ministry's Political Parties Registration Department started accepting applications.

The Popular Unity Party, led by Talal Ramahi, was the only party to hand in its application form to the Ministry of Interior Saturday. "The application form was handed in along with a list of (the party's) 55 founding members," Minister of Interior Jawdat Shoul told the Jordan Times.

"No other parties came to hand in their applications, although some came to pick up application forms," Mr. Shoul said. The minister warned that the local press should be careful to differentiate between applicants and registered parties.

"Just because a group applies for registration does not automatically mean that it is registered; it only means that it applied for registration," said Mr. Shoul.

While the ministry has 67 days to accept or refuse any given party's application, it must give a 15-day "grace period" to any party that has failed to meet the conditions set out by the Political

Parties Law. "Any group will have a 15-day grace period to get its papers in order in case we find that it has certain requirements missing," said the minister.

He said that no "time limit" had been set on when parties could apply for registration. "They can come now or in 10 years; our doors are open," he said.

The Ministry of Interior opened its doors to applicants last Thursday, after more than two decades during which political parties were banned.

Parties from all shades of the political spectrum have been meeting to form coalitions and alliances for the past month.

While parties on the right of the spectrum and the center appeared to be making progress in forming alliances, parties on the left appeared to trailing behind.

But this weekend one of Jordan's two Communist parties seemed to be changing the tide when it invited at least five political groups to share the podium of its first convention.

Two of the political groups that joined Mr. Madanat's party on the podium — the Jordan People's Democratic Party and the Jordan Popular Unity Party — are co-members of the Jordanian Arab Nationalist Democratic

Association (JANDA). The Democratic Forum, another left-wing group, headed by Ali Amer, joined the Communist Party for the first time in public forum this weekend.

Some political observers believe that Mr. Amer's participation in the Communist Party convention may signal the Democratic Forum's moving into JANDA. JANDA currently provides an umbrella for five left-wing and pan-Arab parties as well as a large number of individual politicians.

Taher Al Masri's presence at the convention was also seen as a sign that Mr. Masri, a former prime minister, and a member of the Lower House of Parliament may consider joining JANDA as an independent politician.

Two of JANDA's independent members hold seats in the Cabinet of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Action Party held a public meeting in the city of Salt Saturday evening in which it lobbied for popular support. The party, led by Mr. Isahak Farhan, is the de facto political party of the powerful Muslim Brotherhood movement in Jordan.

The party is expected to hand in its application for official political party status within the coming 10 days.



KING RECEIVES LEBANESE OFFICIAL: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received Lebanese Economy Minister Samir Magdoud, who conveyed to King Hussein the congratulations of Lebanese President Elias Hrawi on the success of his surgery and safe return home. King Hussein asked the Lebanese official to convey his wishes of good health and happiness to Mr. Hrawi and wished the Lebanese people further progress and prosperity. The meeting was attended by Industry and Trade Minister Abdulhish Razzouk and the Lebanese ambassador to Jordan. Earlier in the day, Dr. Razzouk accompanied Mr. Magdoud on a visit to Amman Industrial City in Sahab area. Director general of the Industrial Cities Corporation Faysal Subelmat briefed the Lebanese minister on the goals of the corporation (Petra photo).

Diplomat praises Jordanian-S. Korean ties

AMMAN (Petra) — South Korea's Ambassador to Jordan Hahn Choon Lee Saturday voiced his country's deep satisfaction with its relations and economic cooperation with Jordan, saying that bilateral ties have been growing stronger since a visit by His Majesty King Hussein to South Korea in 1983.

In a statement marking South Korea's national day, the ambassador said his country "takes pride in contributing to the development of Jordan and hopes that cooperation will continue and increase."

South Korea and Jordan are both poor in natural resources but they rely on their skilled manpower for development, he said. South Korea would like to see more Jordanian and Korean businessmen and investors exchanging visits and discussing joint projects, the ambassador said.

Referring to joint ventures, Mr. Lee recalled that the Korean Company, Gold Star, has recently launched a joint venture in Jordan, manufacturing television sets and refrigerators. He also referred to "the South Korean Shin Sung Company, which reached a deal with a local company to start producing television sets before the end of 1992.

Referring to economic cooperation and the volume of trade, Mr. Lee said despite the remoteness of Korea from the Kingdom, the leaderships in the two countries have worked towards bolstering bilateral ties and have had economic and cultural agreements since 1962.

The ambassador said that the two countries last year exchanged goods worth \$81 million and said that trade exchanges in July of this year alone amounted to \$68 million.

He said Korea imported 124,000 tonnes of Jordanian phosphate worth \$4.8 million and \$6,000 tonnes of potash worth \$9 million during 1991.

He said that South Korea hopes the volume of trade between the two countries will increase. Referring to the assistance South Korea offered to Jordan since 1988, he said that assistance came in the form of help to the agricultural sector and in providing vehicles to transport water for agricultural purposes.

He said that Seoul offered Jordan a \$10 million soft loan in the wake of the Gulf crisis to help it treat waste water at Wadi Seer area, west of Amman. South Korea also has decided to offer \$150,000 a plus in kind as assistance to the Um Al Hussein Orphanage in Amman.

Mr. Lee referred to natural resources and said that through the Hanbo Company, South Korea has been helping Jordan to prospect for oil and gas in an area of nearly 217,62 square kilometres in the Al Rishbeh and Al Sarhan districts.

The ambassador said that there also was a vast tourist potential in Jordan and that Seoul was hoping bilateral cooperation in tourism will gather pace. He said his country will soon host a group of Jordanian scientists and researchers from Jordanian universities to hold consultations on cooperation in cultural and scientific fields.

Asked on the nature of the committee's task, Dr. Irshaidat said that nothing can be revealed until after the committee has met on Wednesday. The minister told the Jordan Times, "that the government wants the committee to help find jobs for the youth to earn a living, and stay in their hometowns and places of living."

The minister said that financing of such projects would most probably be provided by the government through the Development and Employment Fund.

Crown Prince urges ATF to help change false image of Arabs

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday opened a meeting by the Amman-based Arab Thought Forum's (ATF) board of trustees, and urged its members to help change the false image that orientalists and Arab writers abroad have painted about the Arab identity.

People in the Arab World are currently living through a state of anger which, if allowed to continue, undoubtedly would deepen the feeling of isolation and frustration, said Prince Hassan.

The Crown Prince expressed hope that the next stage will witness a tendency towards promoting social and cultural life more than the political activities in the Arab World.

The ATF is facing the challenge of utilizing the Arab World's potential in the fields of language and religion, said the Crown Prince, who left Amman Saturday in a several-day visit to the United States, Belgium and Britain.

He told the ATF board of trustees which met at the Al Hussein Youth City, that it is

regrettable to see the outside world classifying the Arab World according to regional zones and dealing with each zone in a pragmatic manner.

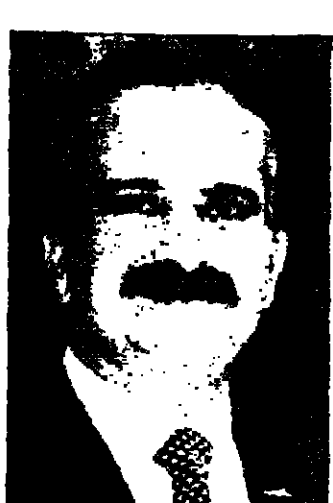
What the Arab region needs, he said, is to adopt the principles of the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe so as to deal with regional issues.

The conference in Europe, he said, is being enlarged and is now grouping 40 nations including newly independent nations.

The Crown Prince said that the conference is to meet next in Sweden to discuss questions related to ethnic conflicts in Europe. He said the ATF should serve as an umbrella for Arab thought, advocating Arab writers views and protecting freedom of expression.

He said it was to be regretted that the ATF has not yet delved into the Arab cultural centres and has failed to reach the Arab thinkers around the world. He said the lack of resources over the past years had hampered such work.

The current Arab situation, future outlooks for the Arab



World as well as the role that ATF can play to promote dialogues among Arab countries were reviewed by the board members in the one day-meeting.

An ATF statement said that the meeting, the first to be held since the Gulf crisis, reviewed inter Arab cooperation in economic and political fields.

The ATF board of trustees groups a number of Jordanian and Arab personalities.

Envoy voices hope for increased trade between Jordan, Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian-German cooperation in various fields is fruitful and constructive, and it is hoped that the two countries will take further steps to enhance this cooperation, particularly in trade, according to Mr. Matthias Meyer, counselor at the German embassy in Amman.

Speaking on the occasion of Germany's national day and the elapse of two years since the unification of Germany, Mr. Meyer said that Bonn was keen on further promoting its trade and economic ties with Jordan.

Germany currently exports JD130 million worth of goods to Jordan, but trade exchanges between the two countries are still below the aspired level and it is hoped that there will be an increase in the future, Mr. Meyer said.

Since the start of the German-Jordanian economic cooperation programme, Bonn has provided the Kingdom with about DM 1.7 billion in economic assistance and the German annual fiscal budget includes DM 30 million in soft loans to Jordan to help it implement its economic projects and DM 17 million in technical assistance, according to Mr. Meyer.

Mr. Meyer announced that Jordanian and German officials will hold a meeting in December to discuss German-funded economic projects in the Kingdom, including the expansion project at the Khirbet Al Samra Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Meyer also recalled that Bonn was the major contributor to Jordan's economy in the wake of the Gulf crisis. Germany, he

added, provided the Kingdom with DM 350 million in grants and assistance to help the Jordanian national economy after the Gulf crisis of 1990.

Referring to the reunification of Germany, Mr. Meyer said Bonn has offered \$100 billion towards rebuilding the economy in the eastern part. The assistance is helping to privatise 9000 formerly state-owned companies in former East Germany, he said.

Mr. Meyer said that the reunification process was going on well, but added that it is expected to take 10 years before former East Germany achieves parity with West Germany.

Mr. Meyer said that Bonn views the reunification of Germany as the first step towards the full unification of Europe.

Housing Bank donates JD100,000 to cancer centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Housing Bank has promptly responded to calls on Jordanian individuals and institutions to contribute to the cost of completing the Al Amal Cancer Centre, near the University of Jordan.

A bank official has announced that the bank was making a contribution of JD 100,000 to help provide the centre with the required medical equipment.

The bank official said that the contribution was "a show of the Housing Bank's total backing to this vital project," which is being implemented through the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS).

He said that both the private and the public sectors are urged to extend a helping hand to the national committee to make this project a reality.

GUVS and the national committee Friday started a week-long campaign to raise funds for the JD 14 million cancer centre project.

They said that they were holding a number of events to help the campaign achieve success and organising a door-to-door collection drive to raise funds from citizens, institutions and companies throughout the country.

Samra attends opening of cultural week in Oman

MUSCAT (Petra) — A Jordanian cultural week opened Saturday in the Omani Capital, Muscat, in the presence of Culture Minister Mahmoud Al Samra and Omani Minister of National Heritage and Culture Faisal Ben Ali Al Saied.

The week includes an art exhibition, an exhibition of embroideries, handicrafts and traditional industries, book exhibition and three lectures on the role of universities in addressing contemporary problems, social development and the cultural movement in Jordan.

Dr. Samra and the Omani minister held a meeting Saturday in which they discussed cultural relations between the two countries. Dr. Samra said that holding the Jordanian cultural week in Oman was a true expression of brotherly relations between the two countries.

Dr. Samra conveyed to Sultan Qaboos and the government and people of Oman the congratulations of His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of resolving border dispute between Oman and Yemen.

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HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Rahmah opens school festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Rahmah Al Hassan Saturday opened Al Manhal school's annual festival and book exhibition. The six-day festival includes shows of cultural films, seminars on children, lectures and theatre shows. The book exhibition, in which 12 publishing houses are taking part, includes 2,500 titles on various subjects.

Hindawi meets foreign minister of Cabardino Balkar

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and acting Foreign Minister Thounan Al Hindawi Saturday received in his office the Foreign Minister of Cabardino Balkar, Anthony Lamarov, in the presence of head of the Circassian Society in Jordan Samir Qardan. Mr. Lamarov expressed the willingness of his republic to establish relations with Jordan in economic, educational, cultural, touristic and sports fields. Last week, His Majesty King Hussein received Mr. Lamarov who congratulated him on the success of his surgery on behalf of the north Caucasus peoples. Mr. Hindawi said at Saturday's meetings that a draft cooperation protocol between the two countries will soon be prepared upon directives issued by King Hussein.

FBI delegation arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrived in Amman Saturday on a several-day visit to Jordan. The delegation will meet with Public Security Department (PSD) Director Fadel Al Fuhed and will visit several PSD units to get familiarised with the department's role in combatting crime. The delegation will also visit archaeological and touristic sites in the Kingdom.

Celebrations of King's return continue

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's celebrations of His Majesty King Hussein's recovery and safe return home continued on Saturday. The Vocational Training Centre in Yajouz organised a celebration which included speeches and performances by several folk troupes. The Jordan Medical Association sub-committee in Madaba district also organised a free-of-charge medical day for school children in cooperation with Madaba Government Hospital and Al Nadim Hospital.

Sahab office to handle passport applications

AMMAN (Petra) — Citizens in Sahab area will be able to renew their passports or get new ones at Sahab Passports Office as of mid October, according to Director General of the General Passports and Civil Registration Department Nasouh Mahyeddin. Mr. Mahyeddin said the office will be serving citizens living in Sahab, Khashafiyeh, Al Abdaliyyeh, Salem Al Baidhaa, Al Manarah, Al Nuzha and Al Raqim Areas. He called on citizens living in these areas to transfer their passport files to Sahab office. Citizens in these areas used to receive or renew their passports at Western Amman Passports Office. Mr. Mahyeddin said this step was taken in implementation of the administrative development plan.

Seminar to discuss housing strategies in Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — A workshop on strategies of human settlements in Arab countries will open in Amman today (Sunday). The four-day workshop, which is organised by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in cooperation with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation, will review shelter strategies adopted in several selected Arab states and will analyse the impact of social and economic aspects on the drafting and sponsoring of national housing strategies. Delegations representing Yemen, Syria, Sudan, Egypt and Jordan will participate in the seminar.

U.J. to host seminar on religious preaching

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan's Faculty of Sharia will Oct. 6 organise a seminar on mosque sermons and preaching. Conference rapporteur, Bassam Al Umoush, said the two-day conference will discuss 12 working papers dealing with religious preaching. The conference will also discuss ways of preparing sermons, the characteristics of a good preacher and the relationship between the mass media and the Friday sermon.

WHAT'S GOING ON Exhibitions

★ Exhibition of traditional handicrafts and antique items (including embroideries, artificial flowers, tricot, costumes and agricultural products) organised by Madaba Tourism Office in cooperation with the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (QAF), Madaba Women's Cooperative Society and Al Aqsa and Ma'a's Spa Charity societies.

★ Exhibition of small paintings by Jordanian artist Ali Al Ghoul at Baladna Art Gallery.

★ National industries exhibition which includes electric appliances, carpets, food supplies, chemical detergents, clothes, paints and other items at Al Hassan Sports Stadium in Irbid.

Lands department reports decline in revenue

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lands and Survey Department last month collected revenues totalling JD 4,876,513, registering a decline of 18 per cent over revenues of the previous month, according to department Director General Ali Ghazalbeh.

Mr. Ghazalbeh said that last month's revenues registered a 10 per cent decline compared with revenues collected in the month of September 1991.

The department collects fees for the registration of land, homes and other real-estate and also for real estates transactions. Meanwhile, the income tax department reported a rise in collections compared with the first nine months of 1991.

Department Director Mansour Haddadin said that between January and September 1992, his office collected JD 92,072,218 compared with JD 79,752,954 in the same period of last year, registering a 15.4 per cent increase.

Mr. Haddadin said that in the past month of September, his department collected JD 6,170,073 against JD 5,745,069 in September of 1991. He attributed the increase to the quick response on the part of the tax payers to the department's call to settle their dues and submit statements about their income in the past year as soon as possible. Mr. Haddadin said that tax payers unable to settle their dues in time can call at the concerned sections of his department to arrange for payment by instalment.

New water network to cost JD25 million

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation plans to start replacing Amman's worn-out water network in the coming days and estimates the project that will cost JD 25 million and will take six months to complete.

In a letter to Al Ra'i Arabic Daily, Minister of Water and Irrigation Samir Kawar said that the cost of the project will be provided by a number of sources and the project will be carried out in six stages.


The Treasury, the European Community (EC) and the German government will help finance the project, the minister said.

The ministry had said that a great deal of water pumped by the Water Authority of Jordan in the Amman region was being lost due to leakage in worn-out pipes underground.

In an interview with the Jordan Times last week, WAF Secretary General Mutaz Al Bilbeisi said that the Water Authority was embarking on a campaign to collect JD 12 million in dues owed to it by the public in order to raise funds for the ministry's water projects.

As of Wednesday Oct. 7, he said, WAF will start disrupting water supplies to house holds and organisations should they fail to pay their dues for consumed water.

UNITED NATIONS
Economic and Social Commission
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No time for conflict

IN VIEW of the Gulf war and its consequences on the Arab World, the last thing that the Gulf region needs is another border dispute between two sister states. The fact that the border problem between Saudi Arabia and Qatar has turned violent in the last few days makes this issue doubly important. But the development is particularly significant since both Riyadh and Doha have had the best of relations till now and served as a model for inter-Arab relations. Ironically, though, both countries are fellow members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and as such have the necessary forum to resolve any conflict between them.

Many inter-Arab wars erupted over territorial disputes already at a time when one would have thought that an Arab territory is first and foremost Arab property that cannot or should not be a cause of shedding Arab blood. It is not like an Arab country invading another and occupying part of its territory, in which case fighting for the recovery of the usurped Arab land would be more than defensible. But for Qatar and Saudi Arabia to be locked in an armed conflict over Al Khofous border post is something that shames Arab politics and violates every tenet of Arab nationalism.

It seems that the source of the problem between the two neighbours is the controversial 1965 accord on their joint borders. According to Qatari sources quoted by news agencies, Saudi Arabian troops seized the disputed border post when it unilaterally suspended this accord. Perhaps Qatar acted precipitously in this sense, but this does not and should not give an excuse to Saudi Arabian troops to occupy the desert post. This is the time for the leadership of the two countries to step in and settle the dispute immediately. It is also the duty of the other members of the GCC to step in and mediate between the two states. After all the GCC was established to avoid and solve conflicts and disputes that may occur from time to time between member countries. Besides this is no time to quarrel about border demarcations between two friendly Arab states.

Last week a major dispute between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Iran erupted over Abu Musa Island. The other GCC countries immediately stood by the UAE and manifested the kind of Arab solidarity that should have been expected of them. Based on this, it would be foolish for Qatar and Saudi Arabia to get engulfed in a shooting war over a small border post. The Gulf region has yet to recover from the wounds and scars of the Gulf war and crisis that preceded it. This is time to heal wounds and not to open them, even if that entails the sacrifice of small part of territory to a neighbouring and sisterly Arab country.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAY Arabic daily Saturday commented on a tour of the region by French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, who intends to visit Syria, Israel and Egypt, noting that the tour was aimed at giving momentum to the peace process, as was reported from Paris. On the eve of this tour, Damascus made it clear that it would not accept a separate deal with Israel over the Golan, and that only a comprehensive peace is acceptable to the Arab Nation, said the daily. At the same time, Syria said that President Assad would not meet with Yitzhak Rabin in order to work out a settlement, the paper added. In the light of this situation, one can only question the real intentions of the French minister and the means through which he intends to give momentum to the peace process, the paper continued. It said that Paris realises too well that it is Israel which is showing obstinacy and delaying the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and refuses to give land in exchange for peace. The key to a solution in the region, said the paper, lies with Israel announcing its end of the settlement programmes in occupied Arab lands and a determination to reach peace on the basis of U.N. resolutions that call for a total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands, the paper said. It said that the Arab negotiators at the peace process have repeatedly made this clear to the world community and have repeatedly voiced their countries' determination to reach a durable and comprehensive peace. All peace-loving people, added the daily, hope that the French minister would succeed in his mission and persuade Israel to comply with the requirements of peace and pull out from Arab territories to achieve that goal.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour daily called on Iran to be prepared for the United States' wrath for its inconsiderate act of occupying Arab islands in the Gulf. Iran should realise that it has overstepped the red line of American interests in the Gulf area and has to pay for its rash actions, said Mohammad Kawash. It seems that Tehran should be ready for war with the United States following the American presidential elections, the writer warned. He said that acting like a shark in the Gulf waters, Tehran has stupidly swallowed the bait (Abu Mousa Island) and it must be prepared now to confront Washington like Libya and Iraq. This was not the first blunder committed by the Tehran regime, said the writer. He recalled that Tehran stabbed Iraq in the back during the Gulf crisis and it is now committing an act of treachery against the Gulf states encroaching on American interests as well as on Arab countries' territories. Unless Iran pulls out of the Gulf islands it has occupied, warned the writer, it would have to face the music for its dreadful actions.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

IT IS high time to start a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue regarding the shape of economic relations that should prevail between Jordan and Palestine once the self-government is established. We should not go along any more with those who like to believe that the current peace negotiations taking place in Washington will lead us nowhere. In fact the negotiations between Israel, on the one hand and Jordan, Syrian, Lebanon, and the Palestinians, on the other, are working out the details. Matters of substance were already finalised and agreed upon during James Baker's shuttle diplomacy before the negotiations started. What the heads of delegates are saying to the television cameras should be dismissed as mere misinformation and cover up, until a treaty is finalised and ready for signature.

Since the West Bank and Gaza Strip will form a self-ruled entity, early in 1993, the time has come to discuss a formula to define and regulate the economic, financial and trade relations between Jordan and Palestine.

There are two possible forms that the economic relations may take, with no third alternative in between. The first is to return to the pre-1967 relations, i.e. full economic integration with complete freedom of movement of labour, capital and goods across the borders. The second is to build normal relations, similar to those prevailing between any two neighbouring countries. In the latter case, there will be border points, authorities and the usual restrictions imposed on the movement of goods, capital, and

manpower. Confederation is out of question because it has not worked anywhere in the world and proved to be prescription for instability.

The decision is not, of course, left entirely to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or to the Palestinian side. The Jordanian position should, by no means, be taken for granted.

In a democratic environment, there should be open and frank discussions based on objective factors, not emotional sensations. Jordanian-Palestinian unity has its strong enthusiastic supporters and its objectors on both sides.

The starting point is whether the Palestinians would like to have a currency, a central bank, an airline and passports of their own, together with all the state symbols, or would they prefer to go back to the old formula of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan after all the developments that took place at the level of the national economy and the democratisation process, and in view of the clear-cut veto placed against an independent Palestinian state.

The crucial point is the nature of economic relations that will prevail between the self-government area and Israel. If there will be open borders and no restrictions on the movement of goods, services and capital, it becomes impossible to lift the restrictions on the Jordanian-Palestinian borders. The Jordanian economy is not yet ready to open up directly, or indirectly through the West Bank, to the Israeli economy. The freedom of exchange of goods

between the East Bank and the West Bank should be preceded by a customs union between the two banks, which may deal with Israel just like another foreign country, on equal footing with, for instance, Turkey or Cyprus. Otherwise Jordan itself will enter indirectly in the self-government area with full access to Israel, something that Jordan will not even contemplate.

Leaving aside the political and national factors, it should be very clear that Jordan has no economic interest in entering into a Benelux type of arrangement with Palestine and Israel even if the PLO would go along with the idea. Jordan has nothing to gain and very much to lose under such a formula.

Finally, we should not forget the Gaza Strip, which is the most crowded piece of real estate in the world, with practically no economy of its own, due to lack of land, water, natural resources, and industrial capacity. The hundreds of thousands of people live there on the margin of the Israeli economy, being the major source of employment and income. Gaza Strip is capable of sinking any ship it may get on board, unless billions of dollars are made available for massive development.

The time is ripe for open and free dialogue based on calculations, and real interest in the present and the future, provided however that those who have nothing to offer except emotions and ignorance should stay away. What we need at this point is logic, rational, and sound calculations, not noises and sensations.

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

Economic relations with the Palestinian self-government

Arab writers debate their identities and reasons for writing

By Samira Kassar
Special to the Jordan Times

LONDON — A series of intense debates on the role, identity and responsibilities of Arab writers and intellectuals in their own countries and abroad ended here at the Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) on Wednesday leaving some interesting questions in their wake.

One such question was whether writers and intellectuals should write or speak out responsibly, bearing in mind the consequences of their ideas, or whether they should speak out with complete disregard for any consequences in order to avoid self-censorship.

That question grew out of a debate between the Palestinian-American writer Edward Said and the Iraqi-British writer Kan'an Makiyyah, who is better known by his pen name Samir Al Khaili.

Mr. Makiyyah, author of a highly critical book on political repression in Iraq entitled "Republic of Fear," was a participant in the cultural week's second debate entitled *Intolerance*.

Mr. Makiyyah traced the emergence of religious intolerance in Europe, which he said first manifested itself as anti-Semitism and then spread to other forms of religious conflict, turning Europe into a "wild and cruel place" until the end of the 17th century. "The need to survive" then predominated, according to Mr. Makiyyah, causing the intolerance and violence to give way to "forbearance."

Mr. Makiyyah claimed that "the Middle East is wilder today than Seventeenth Century Europe" and launched into a description of a catalogue of upheavals in the Middle East's recent history to prove his point. Mr. Makiyyah singled out the fighting between the Syrian army and Muslim fundamentalists in Hama in 1980, bitterly attacking the Syrian government for the carnage and the destruction of the city's old centre, but neglecting to mention the violence in which the fundamentalists themselves had engaged.

Mr. Makiyyah also cited the attempted coup and internal fighting which gripped the former Republic of South Yemen in 1986, the persecution of Kuwait's Palestinian population by Kuwaiti vigilantes and the Kuwaiti government after the Gulf war, Iraq's wiping out of Kurdish villages during the Iran-Iraq war and the brutalities of the Lebanese civil war.

Astonishingly, the Iraqi dissi-

dent made no reference to the violence perpetrated by the Israelis against the Palestinians for more than 40 years, or to the horrors suffered by the Lebanese and the Palestinians during Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Mr. Makiyyah then launched a diatribe against Arab intellectuals, accusing them of neglecting to address the intolerance that leads to violence in their own societies and of being "constantly preoccupied with blaming others, particularly Israel and the West" for the evils bedeviling their countries.

He accused Arab intellectuals of "thinking like victims" — a phenomenon which he attributed to the Arab defeat of 1967 and claimed that such a mentality had led Arab intellectuals towards intolerance and allowing "silence to triumph over cruelty."

He ended with a passionate exhortation to Arab intellectuals to criticise their own societies and leaderships, claiming that "silence about what Arab is doing to fellow Arab is part of a knee-jerk anti-Westernism." Such silence, he said, "creates" leaders like Saddam Hussein.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Makiyyah's intervention was greeted with much applause and approbation by an overwhelming Jewish audience which had come to listen to two other participants in the debate: Israeli writers David Grossman and Aharon Appelfeld. Grossman about Mr. Makiyyah representing a "welcome sign of change" amongst Arab intellectuals who had been opposed to Israel over the years could be heard.

Mr. Makiyyah was, nevertheless, challenged by several Arabs in the audience, one of whom pointed out that he had totally overlooked major Arab intellectuals and writers such as Taha Hussein. The most significant challenge to Mr. Makiyyah, however, came from Professor Edward Said, who was in the audience.

Mr. Said criticised the tone of the entire debate on intolerance as "pious" and said that facts about actual happenings on the ground were much more important than attitudes such as tolerance and intolerance. He told Mr. Makiyyah that his analysis had "dismissed imperialism and Zionism," which had had real and tangible impacts on the Arab World, and had resulted in the deaths of many people.

Mr. Said also reminded Mr. Makiyyah that Arab intellectuals, even those living abroad, did not have much of a platform to express themselves, because most of the Arabic-language newspapers published outside the Arab World are Saudi-owned, and hence, censored. To illustrate his point, he said that a regular column he had been contributing to a London-based Saudi-funded newspaper had been cancelled soon after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990 because he had been critical of American policy on the issue.

Mr. Said told Mr. Makiyyah that Arab writers and intellectuals should be responsible in their criticism, and be aware of where they are speaking out and who constitutes their audience. This, he said, is necessary because of a "cultural war" against the Arabs in the West, where people are "primed" to receive negative images of Arabs out of context. Mr. Said referred to a televised remark by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger saying that no one could believe anything an Arab said. Mr. Said noted that the remark had not caused the slightest outrage in the United States, whereas similar remarks about Jews or blacks or hispanics would have caused an uproar.

He also reminded Mr. Makiyyah that he had not been able to find a publisher for his own critical book on Iraq, "Republic of Fear," until it had "become fashionable to attack Iraq" during and after the Gulf war.

Mr. Grossman's intervention during the same session included some curious logic, not atypical of the self-deception characterising of the thought of many leftist Israeli liberals who adopt a platform of opposition to Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Grossman's credentials as a liberal opposed to Israeli repression of Palestinians living under occupation were established by his book "The Yellow Wind," which gives a critical account of Israeli occupation by describing the author's journey through Palestinian camps, Israeli settlements, towns, cities and Israeli factories which employ low-paid Palestinian workers. But like the vast majority of Israeli "liberals," Mr. Grossman assumes that the injustices inflicted against the Palestinians only began with the 1967 occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Given the consistent refusal of most Israeli liberals to take a critical look at the way in which the establishment of their state uprooted and dispossessed the Palestinians, it was little wonder that Mr. Grossman chose to relate a story about a negative Palestinian reaction to the Holocaust he had encountered as an example of "Palestinian intolerance" towards Jews. Mr. Grossman's story ran something like this: Upon asking a group of young Palestinians about the Holocaust, they seemed to know nothing about it. Then a young girl, who realised what Mr. Grossman was talking about, told him that it was wrong to say that six million Jews had died in the Holocaust, and that the actual number was one million. She then told him that Palestinians in Israel were fed-up with studying about the history of Jewish suffering and more interested in studying the history of their own suffering, which was being completely overlooked.

Mr. Grossman juxtaposed this story with another about a Jewish settler in the West Bank who said he could not allow himself to become aware of the suffering of Palestinians because that would make him weak at a time when he was at war with them.

A member of the audience pointed out the inequality of the two examples by drawing Mr. Grossman's attention to the fact that it was unfair to use Palestinian reactions to the Holocaust as a sign of their intolerance towards their oppressors since the Palestinians themselves were also victims of the Holocaust. Mr. Grossman was reminded that Palestinians felt that the Holocaust had created a great moral justification in the West for the creation of Israel at their expense, and then allowed the Israelis to get away with the atrocities they had committed against the Palestinians in the process of establishing Israel because the world felt such overwhelming sympathy for the suffering of the Jews. The commentator from the audience also suggested to Mr. Grossman that the Palestinians were victims of the Holocaust because the trauma to which it had subjected Jews had made them blind to the suffering they were inflicting on the Palestinians.

Attempting to refute the comment, Mr. Grossman's liberal facade gave way to the stock responses that Israelis and their

supporters have given for over four decades: There were other examples, he said, of Palestinian intolerance towards Israelis. Had not the Palestinians danced on the roofs of their houses as Iraqi Scud missiles had fallen on Israel? Had not Israelis been made to feel threatened and insecure by the 220 million hostile Arabs surrounding them?

The Israeli-Palestinian writer Emile Habibi used the debate to deliver a not-so convincing defence of his acceptance earlier this year of Israel's 1992 Jerusalem literary award from the former headline Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. He claimed that the award was a "recognition" of the Palestinians' national status within Israel and their struggle against being transferred outside their homeland. He added that he had refused to accept the award. "I would have betrayed my people's struggle to legitimise their national existence in their land" — a claim that many Palestinians critical of Mr. Habibi have rejected and denounced.

A second debate entitled "Universalism, identity and the Writer in the Arab World" brought Mr. Said and Mr. Makiyyah together as participants.

Mr. Makiyyah examined his own identity as a writer in the light of criticisms that he had given up his Iraqi passport to become a citizen of a Western country, and was therefore not entitled to criticise Iraq. Such statements, he said, were made on the assumption "that one writes for who one is, and that one is who one writes for."

Mr. Makiyyah rejected that assumption, claiming that "I write for myself and not for anyone else." He defended himself against charges of being a "self-hating Arab who writes to curry favour with the West" and mitigated the criticism he had directed at "silent" Arab intellectuals in the earlier debate, saying it did not apply to Palestinians "smarting under Israeli occupation."

Mr. Said briefly addressed himself to Mr. Makiyyah's claim of writing for himself, reminding

LETTERS

Jordanian stamps

To the Editor:

I started collecting Jordanian stamps two years ago. I was introduced to the Jordanian philately by a friend I met in Amman. I was impressed and fascinated by several issues of the past which are still very enchanting. But I am sorry to say that this charm and beauty of Jordanian issues is fading away. The designs of recent issues on Olympics and King Hussein's accession to the throne are below average and the colour-scheme very dull.

The same was the case with intifada issue. The colours were so dull that it killed all interest in the artistic value of the design and thus failed to convey the message.

The best stamps on intifada were from the United Arab Emirates and then of Kuwait: those had an active message, lively designs and attractive colour schemes.

In this world of intense competition and aggressive marketing Jordan has to meet the expectations of the collectors, not only at home but more so abroad where people are very choosy.

It looks to me that designers as well as selectors are not conversant with what is happening in the world of philately around Jordan. They probably do not read too much.

Mehmed Ahmed,
P.O. Box 21707,
Sharjah, UAE.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

Perot's extraordinary career capped by presidential try

By Evan Ramstad
The Associated Press

DALLAS — He founded a major corporation and is worth about \$3.5 billion. He owns a copy of the Magna Carta. He put together a commando team to rescue Americans trapped in a foreign land. Now Ross Perot, who journeyed from middle class to billionaire tycoon, wants to be president. He has formally entered the race.

He cast himself as a reluctant political warrior, forced to oblige the die-hard volunteers who put him on 50 ballots. Yet he had bankrolled their efforts for 10 weeks after dropping his undeclared candidacy.

The wiry, wisecracking Perot grew up in Texarkana, which straddles the Texas-Arkansas border 160 miles east of Dallas. The son of a cotton broker and a

homemaker, Mr. Perot calls his parents "herocs."

After graduating from Texarkana Junior College, Perot entered the Naval Academy, serving on a destroyer and aircraft carrier from 1953 to 1957.

In 1955, angered by a senior officer and confused by the terms of his service obligation, Mr. Perot sought help from Texans in Congress to get out of the navy. But he couldn't and was reassigned to another ship.

Still, the navy instilled in Mr. Perot a passion for the military that crops up in his everyday action and language.

The same year he left the navy, Mr. Perot married Margot Birmingham, a one-time school teacher, now an active participant in Dallas civic organisations.

They have five children.

In 1962, at a time when few understood computers, Mr. Perot founded Electronic Data Systems Corp. (EDS). It grew into a giant by landing contracts for big data processing jobs and new system designs — much of it government work.

His contracts with the government left a two-decade trail of congressional investigations into allegations of favoured treatment, unfair bidding practices, excessive charges and costly errors. But his business thrived.

He instilled a military-like, round-the-clock dedication in EDS employees and, for a time, urged a conservative dress code. As philanthropist extraordinaire, Mr. Perot spent \$4 million to charter jets with supplies for

U.S. prisoners in Vietnam in 1969. The goods were never delivered but Mr. Perot raised the profile of POWs and has championed their causes since.

The POW effort quickly won him notice inside the White House. Former Nixon administration aides recalled him as the "ultimate insider" who parlayed offers to spend up to \$50 million to polish Mr. Nixon's image into access to the president and favours for his company and family.

In early 1979, he organised a private commando team to help two EDS employees flee from Iran. Mr. Perot later supervised a book on the flight that was written by British author Ken Follett. "On Wings of Eagles" later became a TV miniseries in 1983.

King: Islam has no secret ideologies

(Continued from page 1)

the culture of the modern age is one throughout the world resulting from a mixture of a multitude of cultures including Islamic culture," the King said.

Besides learning about Islam, a Muslim should also learn about other cultures so as not to live in isolation from the rest of the world," the King added.

In a reply message, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid said the Al al-Bait University would draw its foundations from the King's directives and will follow the course set by His Majesty.

The prime minister said that the new university would strive to build productive and creative

people armed with the principles of Islam and its values in addition to useful learning for life.

The new university, he said, will also strive to create people rich with the Islamic tradition and culture and capable of absorbing the cultures of the modern age.

Scientific research will serve as the main pillar of the new university, which will strive to create researchers who can benefit their society, the prime minister added.

Sharif Zeid said the government would set up a Royal commission grouping distinguished Muslim scientists and researchers led by Prince Hassan to be entrusted with setting up the university.

Qatar demands 'pullout'

(Continued from page 1)

intentions towards these neighbouring countries."

"Iran condemns the use of force against the small Muslim country of Qatar," wrote the newspaper, which often reflects the thinking of President Hashemi Rafsanjani.

State-run Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus, meanwhile commented on the border incident by reiterating an Iranian assertion that all such disputes are the results of plots by Western powers.

EC speeding up work on new accord with Israel

BRUSSELS (R) — European Commission President Jacques Delors has told Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres the European Community (EC) would renew its economic accord with Israel to improve ties and support Middle East regional cooperation.

Mr. Delors said after talks with Peres that political developments towards regional cooperation and industrial changes in Israel meant the present 1975 accord needed to be updated.

"It is the duty of the community, both politically and in terms of friendship, to take these new realities into account," Mr. Delors said at a joint news conference with Mr. Peres Tuesday.

Mr. Peres said Israel had sought the updating of the agreement to get better access to community markets and to help correct Israel's trade deficit with the community.

Mr. Peres said the EC could contribute to the Middle East peace process through trying to get all sides together in multilateral talks on regional issues such as water supplies, a key economic and environmental problem in the area.

The multilateral talks were launched last year as part of the continuing Madrid peace conference.

Red Cross store attacked in Somali town

MOGADISHU (R) — Gunmen attacked a Red Cross warehouse Friday in the Somali town of Baidoa, where hundreds of people are dying each week in one of the worst famines this century, a top U.N. official said.

The latest security incident occurred while the United Nations special representative for Somalia Mohammad Sahnoun was touring the southwestern town to review relief operations.

"I rushed there as soon as I heard of the incident. Red Cross guards and security men of the local governor fought off the attack. No food was lost," he told Reuters.

Mr. Sahnoun said he believed there were casualties, but was not certain if anyone had been killed in the attack.

"I witnessed the attack. It was banditry, pure and simple. There was nothing political about it at all," he said.

Aid workers blame lack of security in a country now loosely ruled by gangs of gunmen for preventing help arriving to up to two million people they say are at immediate risk of death through starvation.

Mr. Sahnoun is due to preside over a special ministerial-level emergency conference of all U.N. members being invited to Geneva on Oct. 12 and 13 to find ways of distributing food to Somalia, a U.N. spokesman said in Geneva.

Meanwhile, two U.N. officials and one of Somalia's most powerful warlords — General Mohammad Farah Aideed — flew to the southern port city of Kismayu

Friday to try and resolve security problems which led to U.N. staff being pulled out earlier this week.

The expatriate workers were withdrawn from Kismayu — crucial for famine relief operations to the devastated south — after a breakdown of security agreements with local officials.

Unofficial reports say U.N. workers were blockaded in their compounds by their own guards and were frequently harassed and threatened.

The incidents in Kismayu and Baidoa highlight the problems of trying to work in the anarchic Horn of Africa country where all semblance of government disappeared months ago.

"All our problems here are now a question of security, nothing else," said Gen. Sahnoun.

Syria rules out summit with Israel

(Continued from page 1)

talks are still at their early stage and the Arabs still do not know about Israel's real intentions and its response to the requirements of international legitimacy.

Dr. Abu Jaber said, however, that Jordanian and Palestinian sides are constantly coordinating their positions.

"We are also dealing closely with respect and appreciation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and we respect what the Palestinian brothers need. We understand their views about legislative authority in Palestine," the minister said.

He said the Israelis had been using a new political language but "we have not yet discovered the real intentions of the present Israeli government."

Jewish settlements in the occupied territories are a major obstacle in the path of peace, he said.

The Israeli prime minister is still manoeuvring and stalling over this issue," he said.

Dr. Abu Jaber noted the Israeli government had declared that it would complete thousands of units in settlements set up on the occupied territories instead of halting the settlement programme altogether.

France 'not taking over U.S. role'

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Peres last month "clear indications emerged of the prospect of Israel withdrawing from the Golan Heights" and "Paris wanted to convey suggestions and

indications to Damascus."

The source also emphasised that "there cannot be peace in the Middle East without settling the Palestinian problem, which constitutes the crux of the conflict."

U.N. votes to seize Iraqi assets

(Continued from page 1)

Minister Mohammad Al Sahaf, visiting U.N. headquarters, declared the pending action illegal and unjustified.

But the Kuwaiti ambassador to the U.N., Mohammad Abulhasan, said: "The amount seized in no way reflects the damages suffered by the Kuwaiti people. But we are not speaking of millions more, we are speaking of billions more which the council must seize."

As long as Saddam Hussein is in power, he said, Iraq will never fully accept Security Council resolutions.

Security Council President Jean-Bernard Merimee of France did not preclude the possibility of further council action on freezing Iraqi assets.

"It's not bank robbery — it's merely borrowing, as we have said," he said Friday night.

"Insulting the council will get Iraq nowhere," Mr. Merimee said. "It only increases the council's unity of these issues."

Britain's U.N. ambassador, Sir David Hannay, also had a harsh response to Iraq's complaints about the resolution.

"I think all those statements are frankly beside the point," he said. "But I suspect that they know more about bank robbery than I do."

The vote on the resolution was the latest salvo in Iraq's confrontation with the United Nations.

After a U.S.-led military coalition last year ousted Iraqi troops from Kuwait, U.N. inspection teams entered Iraq to ensure that its programme to develop weapons of mass destruction was eliminated, as called for in Gulf war ceasefire resolutions.

The United Nations still maintains a trade embargo against Iraq it imposed after its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Mr. Sahaf proposed an alternative source of money for the compensation of victims and U.N. operations: allowing Iraq to break the trade embargo and sell \$4 billion in oil.

Most council members had wanted Iraq to pay for the programme through a one-time sale of \$1.6 billion in oil, under strict U.N. supervision. But Iraq refused to accept the U.N. terms for the sale, which the U.S. ambassador criticised.

"The resolution adopted by the Security Council today is a reasonable and proportionate response to Iraq's intransigence," said U.S. Ambassador Edward Perkins of the United States.

China's ambassador, Li Daoyu, said his government believes the action is unnecessary and violates Iraq's sovereignty.

Under the resolution, money will come from proceeds from oil sales and money owed to Iraq for oil delivered before the Security Council banned oil trade with Baghdad four days after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. At that time, Iraq's assets abroad — estimated to total \$5 billion — were frozen but not seized.

Oil was Iraq's main source of foreign cash.

The United Nations will be able to confiscate up to \$200 million from each country holding Iraqi oil revenues, but will not be allowed to touch money claimed by Iraq's creditors.

Saudi Arabia and Turkey will be allowed to sell Iraqi oil they have been storing since the invasion, and turn over the money to the United Nations.

In addition to paying for humanitarian programmes and U.N. weapons inspections, the seized money will be used to compensate Asian workers who fled Iraq after the invasion, losing all their possessions.

There were fears Iraq would retaliate for the action by breaking off talks with the United Nations on a U.N. plan to rush winter food, medicine and other supplies to Kurds in northern Iraq.

Mr. Sahaf made no such threat in speaking to reporters before Friday's vote.

The Security Council nations that voted in favour of the resolution are the United States, Britain, France, Russia, Ecuador, Cape Verde, Zimbabwe, India, Hungary, Japan, Venezuela, Morocco, Belgium and Austria.

Mr. Sahaf said the army would be sent to the occupied West Bank Saturday, Palestinians said.

Soldiers shot four students, three of them in the head, while dispersing a demonstration in Ramallah, Palestinians said. In Nablus, soldiers shot a demonstrator in the thigh.

The army said two Palestinians were wounded by soldiers' fire, one moderately and the other seriously, in separate stone-throwing incidents in Ramallah.

Elsewhere in the occupied territories, masked Palestinians shot dead a fellow Arab suspected of collaboration with Israeli authorities, Arab reporters said.



Iraqi Jordanian Land Transport Co.

Tender (No. B/92)

The Iraqi - Jordanian Land Transport Co. intends to sell quantity of brand new spare parts for Styer truck-tractors. Customs duties unpaid.

Copies of terms and conditions and lists of spare parts can be bought from the company's main offices in Jabal Amman, between Fourth and Fifth Circles, during working hours (0800-1400) for the sum of JD 25, non-refundable, starting from 3/10/1992. Closing date for submitting offers is Saturday 24/10/1992 (1200 hrs).

Dr. Shaker Mahadin
Director General



Iraqi Jordanian Land Transport Co.

Tender No. (A/92)

The Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Co. intends to sell (89) used M.A.N. truck-tractors.

- Customs duties unpaid.
- Offers can be submitted to buy all truck-tractors or any number.
- Truck-tractors can be inspected at the company's garages in Al Azraq, starting from 3/10/1992.
- Copies of terms, conditions, and technical specifications can be bought from the company's main offices in Jabal Amman, between the Fourth and Fifth Circles, during the official working hours (0800 - 1400), for the sum of JD 100, non-refundable, starting from 3/10/1992.
- Closing date for submitting offers is Saturday 24/10/1992 (1200 hrs).

Dr. Shaker Mahadin
Director General

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Golanis join prison hunger-strike

(Continued from page 1)

stations in the occupied West Bank Saturday, Palestinians said.

Soldiers shot four students, three of them in the head, while dispersing a demonstration in Ramallah, Palestinians said. In Nablus, soldiers shot a demonstrator in the thigh.

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Elsewhere in the occupied territories, masked Palestinians shot dead a fellow Arab suspected of collaboration with Israeli authorities, Arab reporters said.

Fadil Suleiman Amara, from Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, was shot in the head by an underground enforcement squad affiliated with Fatch, the reports said.

In the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah, soldiers shot and injured two Palestinians in rock-throwing demonstrations, Israeli Radio reported.

Police confirmed the army ordered closed a Palestinian press office for national security reasons (see page 2)

The Aseel Press service in Arab East Jerusalem provided news and information about the Palestinian uprising.

Berlin Olympics bid mired in troubles

BERLIN (AP) — Gorbachev would give "vigorous support" to a Berlin Olympics. Olympic pole vaulter Sergei Bubka also likes the idea.

So, why is the German capital's bid for the year 2000 Olympics having so much trouble with Germans?

That's a question a lot of people are asking, exactly one year before the IOC selects a city Sept. 23, 1993, in Monaco.

"We want to convince Berliners of the benefits of a decision for the Olympics," says Juergen Bostelmann, head of a civic boosters group. "It will be very hard to convince the International Olympic Committee" without grassroots support, he says.

Berliners wonder whether the city would collapse under the combined weight of preparations for the games and the federal government's move here, since both would happen at roughly the same time.

Berlin Sports Federation chief Manfred Von Richthofen says rival candidate Sydney "is way out in front" because of the planning and construction work underway in the Australian city.

"In Berlin, all the plans are running into difficulty," Von Richthofen told the Berliner Zeitung daily newspaper.

Organising committee chief Axel Nawrocki insists that Berlin has good chances of beating out the other candidates: Beijing, Brasilia, Istanbul, Manchester, Milan, Sydney and Tashkent.

Yet, even he acknowledges that "the mood in Berlin isn't as positive as we'd hoped."

Though many Bonn politicians favour the Olympics in Berlin, federal finance minister Theo Waigel says the government can't help finance them.

The Berliner Morgenpost daily newspaper said the estimates of the costs range up to 12 billion marks (\$8 billion).

"Instead of the Olympic rings, there are great big question marks in the German capital," the newspaper said of the ongoing squabbles.

In early August, the Morgenpost published the results of a poll saying that 45 per cent of 1,236 Germans questioned favoured the games in Berlin, 45 per cent were opposed and 10 per cent had no opinion.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE

(Soccer matches played Monday/Tuesday Sept. 28/29, 1992)

TOTS					
MAG	1	vs	Pepsi	2	
Jordan Toothbrush	0	vs	Jordan National Bank	1	
MIDS					
Al Hikma	1	vs	Isiklal	0	

Soccer matches played Friday Oct. 2, 1992

TOTS					
Jordan Toothbrush	0	vs	DHL	5	
Jordan National Bank	1	vs	MAG	1	

JUNIOR I					
Kawar	1	vs	Sipes	3	
CDK	3	vs	Modern Schools	0	

JUNIORS II					
Seven Up	5	vs	UPS	0	
Nash/Ebb	1	vs	ESCSA	3	

MIDS					
Aramex	1	vs	Taber Meat	1	
Al Hikma	0	vs	Intervert	3	
Danish Dairy	2	vs	GEMT	2	
Isiklal	1	vs	Petosed	3	

SENIORS					
American Kitchen	3	vs	CIBA	1	
Abrahimia	1	vs	Peugeot	1	

STANDINGS

	W	D	L	GF-GA	Pl.
--	---	---	---	-------	-----

TOTS:					
Pepsi	3	1	0	10-3	7
MAG	2	2	1	6-4	6
Jordan National Bank	1	4	0	3-2	6
DHL	2	1	2	10-7	5
Jordan Toothbrush	0	0	5	2-15	0

JUNIORS I:					
Sipes	2	0	0	5-1	4
Kawar	1	0	1	5-3	2
CDK	1	0	1	3-2	2
Modern Schools	0	0	2	0-7	0

JUNIOR II:					
Seven Up	1	1	0	7-2	3
ESCSA	1	1	0	4-2	3
Nash/Ebb	0	1	1	3-5	1
	0	1	1	1-6	1

MIDS:					
Intervert	3	0	0	13-1	6
Aramex	2	1	0	7-1	5
Petosed	2	1	0	9-6	5
Al Hikma	2	0	2	5-7	4
Taber Meat	0	3	0	4-4	3
GEMT	0	2	1	3-4	2
Danish Dairy	0	1	2	2-10	1
Isiklal	0	0	4	2-12	0

SENIORS:					
Peugeot	2	1	0	9-4	5
American Kitchen	2	0	2	4-3	4
Abrahimia	1	1	1	5-3	3
CIBA	0	0	3	5-13	0

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
8 JANUARY 1992
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LOOK FOR THE MIRACLE

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ A K 6 2
♥ Q J 5
♦ J 8 2
♣ K 6 4

EAST
♠ 7 4 3
♥ Q 10 9 7 4 A
♦ A K 7 4
♣ Q 10 9 8

WEST
♠ 8
♥ Q 10 9 7 4 A
♦ A K 7 4
♣ Q 10 9 8

EAST
♠ 7 4 3
♥ Q 10 9 7 4 A
♦ A K 7 4
♣ Q 10 9 8

South
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♣ A K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

The bidding:
West 1♣ North East South
Pass 1♣ Pass 1♣
2♥ 2♥ Pass 4♠
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

When logic tells you that a certain holding can't exist, it is masochistic to ignore what you have learned and to pursue a line that is bound to fail. Here's an example of what we mean.

South's decision to jump to game looks a bit pucky. However, it was based on the presumption of a double fit, and receives the endorsement of this department.

West led the king of diamonds and, in response to East's signal of the ten, continued with the ace and the seven. Declarer ruffed and drew the ten, forcing East to yield a ruff-stuff.

Although the contract should have been made, East could have defended better. A low diamond at trick one might have persuaded West to shift to a heart. East wins the ace, returning a diamond to West's ace and gets a heart ruff for a one-trick set.

Sports officials reshuffled

Ministry focuses on attaining competitive standards

By Aileen Bannayan

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidat Saturday announced the reshuffle of office bearers of 26 sports federations who will be carrying out the ministry's directives to upgrade and enhance the level of sports in the Kingdom.

"The minister announced the names of the newly-appointed federation members on a four-year term at a news conference at Al Hussein Youth City in Amman."

In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times, the minister said that the formation of new federations at this time comes as a legal requirement of the Youth Welfare Act, which stipulates that there be a change of federations after each Olympic Games.

"We have had a good chance to reevaluate the current state of national teams and sports in general. We now plan to upgrade and develop sports in the Kingdom while paying particular attention to making our national teams more competitive," Dr. Irsheidat said.

"We sought to have the right people who can cooperate and honestly work to develop sports in the Kingdom," he said.

"We hope to greatly improve our national teams and we have therefore sought the help of specialist coaches from the Commonwealth of Independent States and other countries," the minister said. "We have contracted such coaches for the national teams of soccer, basketball, swimming, equestrian, and sharpshooting. We will have other coaches for the individual sports very soon."

During the press conference Dr. Irsheidat reiterated that most sports federations depend on the state for their funding (except for the basketball and soccer federations which have managed to secure their funds by themselves). The state spends over JD 1 million on sports and youth activities.

The minister said that a welfare lottery would soon be issued for the sole purpose of funding the federations and clubs.

"The first lottery will be drawn on Dec. 24, and there will be three yearly lotteries," he added.

The minister announced the names of the reshuffled federations as follows:

Tae kwon do Federation:
Issa Reimoni (chairman), Brigadier-General Nourreddin Hakoz, Majed Mansour, Yousef Ahmad, Hikmat Fayez, Adnan Khleif and Khalil Bilbeisi.

Judo Federation:
Sharif Ali Abu Isam (chairman), Colonel Jamal Hamid, Captain Mohammad Jaber, Akel Taffour, Nabil Dalgamouni, Hosni Shaban and Ali Damra.

Karate Federation:

Major-General Ghazi Al Tayeb (chairman) Osama Ammari, Mouin Fa'ouri, Hind Hammouqah, Fahed Kakhah, Hassan Al Ostah and Mo'ad Kheir.

Soccer Federation:

Fakhri Bilbeisi (chairman), Radi Alkhas, Mohammad Hamdan, Bassam Haroun, Ahmad Bataineh, Saleh Al Ghourwani and Fawaz Al Zoubi.

Basketball Federation:

Awad Haddad (chairman), Abdullah Al Kiswani, Suha Adeeab, Ghaleb Bahawi, Ebe Bannayan, Ali Bilbeisi, Kasem Al Abed and Fayez Abu Aridah.

Handball Federation:

Sari Hamdan (chairman) Tayseer Al Nazer, Arabi Hamoudah, Jamal Al Daoud, Ahmad Al Share, Simon Al Hussein and Riyad Al Tai.

Volleyball Federation:

Brig-General Salma Maitah (chairman), Mahmoud Al Hadi, Ali Al Kurdi, Taha Al Tarawneh, Nidal Luti, Shawqi Abdal-lat and Isma Zaza.

Table tennis and Badminton Federation:

Isma Al Kurdi (chairman), Wael Ghannem, Hani Al Ma'ni, Saeed Al Rousan, Jaklin Al Dougan, Nihad Al Batkhi and Tawfiq Al Alami.

Tennis Federation:

Daoud Hanania (chairman), Mohammad Al Udwan, Tala Maher, Adel Al Tarawneh, Ziyad Al Kurdi, Jamal Nafa, Roushan Al Irani, Amer Al Salti and Mamdouh Al Arnouti.

Squash Federation:

Mohammad Saraj (chairman), Mahmoud Al Arnouti, Sameh Abdul Ragheb, Hazeem Farid, Hussein Al Dajani, Mohammad Odeh, Khalid Shalhin, Abdullah Ghosh and Nader Al Majali.

Athletics Federations:

Tayseer Arafah (chairman), Mohammad Shabogh, Mohammad Al Tawfiq, Kamal Al Rahad, Ahmad Bani Hani, Fazel Al Abbadi, Fatimah Mnyar, Foad Kaddomi, Najib Ali, Sh'ar, Simon Al Maitah and Maher Al Kilani.

Gymnastics Federation:

Hashem Ibrahim (chairman), Mohammad Abdul Kibek, Radwan Al Abdallah, Rashad Al Zu'bi, Ahmad Bani Ata, Fadyah Sa'doun, Ra'idah Al Qutub, Fouad Mitwalli, Saeed Tamimi, Abdulatif Tounkan and Mohammad Abdul Qader.



Saleh Irsheidat

Equestrian Federation:

Lieutenant-General Salem Al Turk (chairman), Agel Beltaji, Salim Kheir, Abdulaziz Al Kabarti, Muhieddin Qandour and Enmar Humoud.

Cycling Federation:

Abdullatif Mari' (chairman), Ghazi Haddad, Abdul Kader Dalgamouni, Hassan Assaf, Sami Al Sharairi, Adnan Sha'ban, Ahmad Darwish, Mousa Al Udwan, Mahmoud Al Rousan, Mohammad Al Turk and Nayef Kayed.

Wrestling Federation:

Ibrahim Al Awamleh (chairman), Mousa Al Saleh, Mohammad Mismar, Saleh Sa'di, Mahmoud Jamous, Jihad Sharif, Munir Sobar, Ibrahim Jazazi, Suleiman Qablan and Hashem Sha'ban.

Boxing Federation:

Col. Hasouneh Yada (chairman), Omar Suwan, Mohammad Suleiman, Ahmad Al Omari, Mohammad Abu Nimreh, Yousef Qablawi, Mohammad Obaidat, Ghazi Shloul and Fakhri Sa'adeh.

Weight-lifting and Body-building Federation:

Brig-General Ibrahim Harb (chairman), Abdul Munem Abu Touq, Abdallah Mubaideen, Fayez Haddad, Ali Tas, Ali Oleyan, Mazen Al Fawaz, Mohammad Nijem and Mohammad Mujahed.

Swimming Federation:

Abdullah Abu Nuwwar (chairman), Walid Mardinn, Ibrahim Al Sane, Saqr Al Tell, Zeid Al Alawin, Mohammad Rawashdeh, Manal Taba, Amin Masri, Madhar Mashouqah and Salim Dajani.

Marine-Sports Federation:

Simon Khouri (chairman),

Muzahem Muheisen, Ahmad Khamash, Jaber Al Kabarti, Yousef Tafeh, Hussein Al Kasawneh, Hassan Mansour, Noman Khalaf, Mo'tasem Al Saket, Lieutenant-Col. Omar Kilani and Nadim Gharbour.

Fencing Federation:

Mohammad Al Smadi (chairman), Yousef Al Sfi, Basem Al Mo'asher, Azmi Sabri, Ahmad Salameh, Muna Juma', Rasmii Ibrahim, Taha Al Hababbeh, Lieutenant-Col. Mohammad Mousa and Khaled Atiyat.

Chess Federation:

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad (chairman), Abdul-malek Arafat, Abdul Rahman Masandeh, Ahmad Al Disi, Nahed Suweis, Mohammad Forouqah, Mahmoud Abdul Ghani, Mohammad Al Ma'ni and Amin Al Momani.

Shooting Federation:

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad (chairman), Maj-General Mousa Al Udwan, Issa Shaban, Abed Nijada, Sultan Al Arnouti, Nizar Al Sa'ad, Abdul-Qader Hijazi and Samir Haddad.

Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped:

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid (chairman), Mohammad Suqour, Suleiman Al Rousan, Lutallah Al Duwetri, Hussein Abulruz, Mohammad Harzallah, Sami Khader, Sharifah Nofah Naser, Abdul Khaleq Jaber, Fakhri Horani and Akram Masarweh.

Sports Medicine Federation:

Issam Alhaj Hassan (chairman), Samir Sara, Mazen Al Bitar, Ma'an Saeed, Yousef Sirhan, Raja' Nafa', Khaled Al Udwan, Yousef Othman, Mohammad Al Sakran, Khalil Hamed and Ziyad Sabli.

Jordanian Companies Federation:

Ali Al Sa'ad, Mohammad Al Tell, Yanal Al Bastami, Haythem Al Majali, George Haddad, Mohammad Jaser, Mohammad Al Bilbeisi, Bassam Haddad, Fahed Al Khub, Mohammad Khasawneh and Mohammad Al Atrash.

Sports Media Federation:

Nazmi Al Saeed (chairman), Mohammad Al Shanti, Kan'an Izzat, Mohammad Al Maidei, Seif Dawagreh, Mohammad Qadri Hassan, Ziyad Bataineh, Adnan Tobasi, Ma'moun Baidoun and Waqqas Al Tell.

Andretti wins pole, sets track record

NAZARETH, Pennsylvania (AP) — Michael Andretti won another pole, setting a track record at Pennsylvania International raceway and making the tense Indy-Car championship battle even tighter going into Sunday's Bosch Spark Plug Grand Prix.

Andretti, who lives near the Nazareth track, used whatever home track advantage he might have in turning a lap of 181.435 mph (291.928 kph), smashing the track record of 178.740 (287.592), set last year by Rick Mears on the one-mile oval.

In fact, the top six drivers climbed above 180 (289.620), and the top eight all broke the mark set by Mears, who has been sidelined in recent weeks while recovering from a wrist injury.

More important to Andretti than the speed record was the point that came with winning the pole, moving the defending series champion within 10 points of current leader Al Unser Jr. and nine points of runner-up Bobby Rahal.

"I'm disappointed because I think the car had more than I gave it," Andretti said. "We were lucky to get away with it. I didn't expect the car to stick as good as it did on the second lap and I ended up coming off the corner in turn three wishing I would have gone quicker. ... But we'll take it."

Emerson Fittipaldi, who also is mathematically in the championship hunt, trailing Unser by 18 points with two races remaining, earned the outside position on the front row with a lap of 181.129 (291.436).

Rahal was third, followed by John Andretti, Michael's cousin; Mario Andretti, Michael's father and teammate; Scott Goodyear, Scott Brayton and Eddie Cheever.

"All four of the drivers in the title fight, as well as six others who have won poles, races or are in the top 10 in the season points, took part in the \$1 million All-Star Marlboro Challenge on Saturday, a 100-mile event with one mandatory pit stop."

Michael Andretti said, "You can learn things in the challenge that might be helpful on race day. You are going to use it to your advantage because you never get to practice in race conditions."

Fittipaldi, having won three of the last four races, said, "for the four of us, doing for the championship. I think the Marlboro Challenge could be like a preview of what's going to happen Sunday."

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

By Harris

HARRIS'S

"Do you like this kiss, Stanley? I learned it from one of my women's magazines!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee.

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KEJOR

CYREM

TISSAD

LETHEM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ADAPT TOXIC GRASSY BROKEN

Answer: He ate plenty of noodle soup because he thought it was this—GOOD FOR HIS BRAIN

THE Daily Crossword by Don Johnson

ACROSS

1 Jack of old TV

5 Condiment

10 Chink

14 Look at

15 Heavily

16 Heavily

17 Rocker Turner

18 Dark brown butterfat

20 Title

21 Beam

22 Bandwidth

23 Shaw

24 Harden

25 Sifters

26 Colchic

32 Skin

33 Astronomical

34 Schedule abbr.

35 Mild oeth

37 Mountain crest

38 Bird's river

39 Sky

40 Muslim ruler

41 For fear that

42 Cartwheels

46 Audience

47 Charged particle

48 Mountain

51 Blood vessel

54 Have debts

57 Military reward

60 Indefinite

Yeltsin approves experimental land sales

MOSCOW (AP) — Continuing its mammoth privatization campaign, President Boris Yeltsin Friday gave the green light to an experimental land sale that could help determine property values in Russia, an official said.

After nine months of slow-moving market freedoms, most Russian citizens still are forbidden from purchasing land outright. They can only lease or inherit land.

Mr. Yeltsin's decree authorizes officials in the Ramenskoye

district outside Moscow to start auctioning plots of land by year's end to any citizen living in the region or in the capital, the IAR-TASS news reported.

The only condition in the experiment, according to presidential spokesman Anatoly Kravtsov, is that the buyers must use the state-owned land for home construction.

It was not immediately clear how much land would be offered for sale, or whether there were any other restrictions. Profits

would go central and local government agencies, IAR-TASS said.

After the land has been sold, the state committee for land reform will use the prices fetched to help determine land values, possibly for a wide-scale land privatization in Russia, Mr. Kravtsov said.

Mr. Yeltsin's decree came one day after the government began distributing privatization vouchers to Russia's 148 million people, giving citizens the chance to become owners for the first time in seven decades.

The vouchers can be used to buy shares in shops, restaurants and factories, but the certificates are not valid for land purchases.

Like the voucher programme, many details of the experimental land sale were not clear, such as

whether a buyer could resell the plot to a builder rather than build on it himself. Current law prohibits the sale of land.

If successful, the experiment could help resolve one of the economy's most aggravating dilemmas, by setting more realistic land values.

Privatization has run into steep political and economic hurdles in the former Soviet republics as they try to transform their state-run systems into functioning market economies with private property.

Russian officials Friday continued handing out privatization vouchers, which can be freely bought and sold, as well as invested.

Expecting that many people would try to sell them, the government has set up exchange

offices, where buyers and sellers could work out a price.

The reformist newspaper Moskovskaya Pravda (Moscow Truth) ran an announcement Friday headlined, "In the interest of the people," listing the industries in which Russians could sink their vouchers: Brick factories, wood factories, house-building plants and construction material plants.

Meanwhile, Lithuanian officials were getting ready to introduce their own money, starting this weekend with coins. Lithuanian leader Vytautas Landsbergis proudly displayed the money on republican television Friday.

The Lithuanian cent, in values of 1, 3 and 5, will be introduced in conjunction with coupons that are being distributed until the currency, the lit, is ready for use, Mr. Landsbergis said.

Waigel: Germany not to blame for world's woes



Theo Waigel

BONN (R) — Finance Minister Theo Waigel, faced with growing criticism of Germany's financial and monetary policies, has told industrial nations to search at home for the causes of their economic woes.

Mr. Waigel sharply rejected allegations that Germany was responsible for Britain's inelegant departure from the European Monetary System and continuing global recession.

"The economic problems in the industrial countries are actually not the result of high interest rates, but rather of failures of national governments to curb deficits and deregulate industry and labour," he said.

Mr. Waigel was speaking in Potsdam in east Germany to a

gathering of chairmen of state-owned and partially state-owned businesses.

"Regardless of the excited discussion of the past few days and weeks nothing will change in the stability policies of the government or the Bundesbank," Mr. Waigel said, referring to the turbulence on financial markets which drove sterling from the European Community's exchange rate mechanism (ERM).

"The Bundesbank cannot and may not let the reins drag on interest rates," he said.

After pressure on foreign exchange markets forced the withdrawal of sterling and the Italian lira from the ERM, Britain laid part of the blame on tight monetary policies of the Bundesbank.

It said the German central bank's record high interest rates had a strangle hold on European Community economies and called for reforming the ERM as a precondition to Britain's reentry.

Bonn officials brushed off the criticism.

Germany has rejected Britain's demand for broad changes in the ERM, saying Community leaders brought about the crisis by not effectively applying the system.

Financial Markets

In co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NEW YORK CLOSE 10/1/92	NEW YORK CLOSE 10/2/92
Sterling Pound*	1.7405	1.7285
Deutsche Mark	1.4200	1.4095
Swiss Franc	1.2415	1.2315
French Franc	4.7980	4.7700
Japanese Yen	119.70	119.38
European Currency Unit	1.3715**	1.3780

* USD Per STD ** European Opening @ 8:00 A.M. GMT

Interbank bid rates for accounts settling U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Interbank Interest Rates Dates: 3/10/92

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	2.93	3.00	3.06	3.18
Sterling Pound	9.06	8.88	8.56	8.31
Deutsche Mark	8.93	8.81	8.68	8.31
Swiss Franc	6.56	6.56	6.56	6.57
French Franc	13.00	12.00	10.00	10.00
Japanese Yen	4.12	3.90	3.75	3.62
European Currency Unit	12.62	11.87	11.72	10.37

Interbank bid rates for accounts settling U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Interbank Interest Rates Dates: 3/10/92

Currency	USD/Os	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Os	JD/Gm
Gold	348.75	6.80	Silver	5.76	.090

* 21 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Dates: 3/10/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.673	0.675
Sterling Pound	1.1611	1.1669
Deutsche Mark	0.4770	0.4794
Swiss Franc	0.5451	0.5478
French Franc	0.1470	0.1471
Japanese Yen	0.5633	0.5661
Dutch Guilder	0.4238	0.4259
Swedish Krona	0.1263	0.1269
Italian Lira	0.0539	0.0542
Belgian Franc	0.02314	0.02326

* Per 100

Other Currencies Dates: 3/10/92

Currency	Bid	Offer
Baharal Dinar	1.7560	1.7680
Lebanese Lira	0.0275	0.0295
Saudi Riyal	0.1792	0.1808
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2350	2.3000
Qatari Riyal	0.1823	0.1834
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7160	1.7280
UAE Dirham	0.1823	0.1834
Greek Drachma	0.3665	0.3665
Cypriot Pound	1.5850	1.6050

* Per 100

CAR Indices for Amman Financial Market*

Index	25/9/92	Close	30/9/92	Close
All-Share	149.96		152.95	
Banking Sector	173.22		177.71	
Insurance Sector	153.65		167.30	
Industry Sector	198.06		197.75	
Services Sector	213.40		220.28	

* December 31, 1990 = 100

Bankers say Kuwaiti banks must merge or find fresh capital

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti commercial banks, which suffered heavy losses as a result of Iraq's 1990 invasion, must merge or find fresh capital to survive despite a state plan to buy some \$20 billion of their debts, bankers and economists say.

They said the fate of the banks was linked more to the shrinking market than to cleaning up the balance sheets of the six — National Bank of Kuwait (NBK), Burgan Bank, Bank of Kuwait and the Middle East (BKME), Gulf Bank, Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait and Commercial Bank of Kuwait.

Kuwait's population has fallen to half its level before Iraq's seven-month occupation in 1990-91 and now stands at some 1.2 million people, slashing demand for banking services.

"If they do not merge and

there's not enough business to go around — and if the government says that's it. You have to handle things on your own" — you could see a financial crisis ahead," said one banking source.

"I've not noticed an enormous rebuilding of the deposits base (since the invasion)," he added. "There seems to be little financing for reconstruction."

Only three banks, NBK, BKME and Burgan Bank, have so far announced their financial statements for the two years to 1991.

Altogether, they exchanged their debts for government bonds worth some 1.7 billion dinars (\$5.9 billion) under the debt settlement programme.

Only NBK, which claims to have more assets abroad, fewer bad debts and a more conservative lending policy than the others, showed a profit — 41.6

million dinars (\$143 million) for the two-year period to end-1991.

Burgan Bank posted a 40.3 million dinar (\$139 million) net loss and BKME showed a 65.78 million dinar (\$227 million) net loss for the same period.

Government officials hope banks will either beef up their capital and reserves or merge to become more competitive.

The most likely banks to merge were Burgan and BKME as both were state-owned and had already announced their results, bankers and economists said.

A BKME spokesman said his bank was a candidate for merger with another bank or banks later this year but did not elaborate.

A spokesman at Gulf Bank said it had not set a date to report its results, and officials at Al Ahli and Commercial Bank said their general meetings had been cancelled in for October.

Japan land prices fall

TOKYO (R) — Land prices in many areas around Japan's three major cities continued falling in August, according to a survey by Japan's Ministry of Construction.

The survey showed that land prices in 16 areas fell from a price earlier while 13 areas reported no change. None of the surveyed areas reported a rise in August.

The survey covered 29 areas in and around Tokyo, the western city of Osaka and the central city of Nagoya.

The ministry had asked 70 real estate dealers for information on price movements, transactions, inquiries on land, resale of houses and condominiums for August.

In July, land prices in 14 areas showed no month-on-month change while 15 areas, showed declines.

The number of land transactions in August fell in 17 areas while the number in 12 areas remained unchanged. In July, 19 areas reported no change in land transactions while 10 areas reported falls.

Overseas Indian businessmen urge speedier reforms

NEW DELHI (R) — Overseas Indians keen to invest in their homeland have urged the government to move more rapidly towards financial sector reforms to overcome the setback caused by a billion-dollar financial scandal.

Pratful Patel, a London-based businessman, said the scandal which came to light last April had shaken the confidence of overseas Indians, though he said the government's handling of it was commendable.

Mr. Patel, who is leading a seven-member delegation of non-resident Indians to Delhi, said India was going ahead with economic reforms as planned.

"As part of financial sector reforms, the government should open up the banking sector to the full rigours of the market," he said.

India initiated a series of economic reforms in June last year, beginning with a steep 18.74 per cent devaluation of the rupee against the dollar. In March this year, the rupee was made partially convertible.

"The government should now

pursue with great vigour the objective of complete convertibility by the end of the year," Mr. Patel said.

The government abolished most industrial licensing and promised automatic approval for majority foreign equity in many Indian joint ventures.

Mr. Patel said the securities scandal was a setback for the reforms. Indians living overseas were not eager to take investment decisions, he said.

Two separate official commissions, one on banking and the other on taxes and tariffs, have submitted reports and called for liberalisation of the financial sector. Their recommendations are yet to be implemented.

The \$1.2-billion scandal involved alleged collusion between stock and securities brokers and bank officials in diverting bank funds to the Bombay Stock Exchange to take advantage of a boom in share prices, triggered by the reforms.

Mr. Patel said the international equity shares (global depositary receipts) issued by the Reliance Industries Ltd. were being quoted around \$9.50 each, at almost half the issue price.

He said three other Indian companies which planned to raise funds through similar equity issues had to give up their proposals after the scandal broke in April this year.

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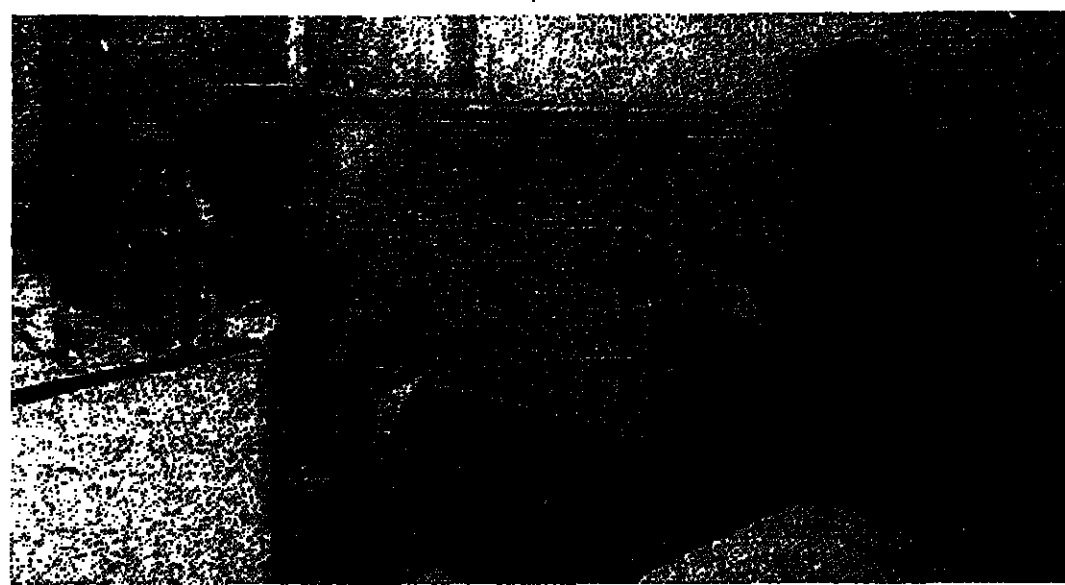
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Georgian troops take cover during house-to-house fighting with forces in rebellious Abkhazia

Georgian forces bomb Abkhazian stronghold

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Georgian forces bombed a seaside resort in breakaway Abkhazia Saturday, under orders from acting head of state Eduard Shevardnadze to recapture the town from rebels who seized it Friday.

Georgia's ruling State Council's press service said in the capital, Tbilisi, that combat aircraft and helicopters had been used to attack the town of Gagra. The number of victims was not immediately known.

Mr. Shevardnadze told Abkhazian television Friday that Tbilisi would soon dispatch 40,000 servicemen to quell unrest in the region, which before the Friday violence around Gagra had already cost some 200 lives.

"Total mobilisation will be carried out, if needed," local journalists quoted him as saying. Georgian troops were sent to Abkhazia in August after the local parliament demanded more autonomy for the region.

The new outbreak of fighting effectively wrecked a Russian-mediated ceasefire which came into force last week, the latest attempt to end the six-week conflict.

The journalists said Mr. Shevardnadze, who fled to Abkhazia Friday, had telephone conversations with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Defence Minister Pavel Grachev Saturday. Details of their talks were not immediately available.

The State Council's press service said Abkhazian leaders had rejected Mr. Shevardnadze's demand to leave Gagra. Abkhazian rebels broke through the Georgian defences in the northern Black Sea coastal town of Gagra Friday and captured it after two hours of street fighting.

A Russian television report from Gagra said 15 Abkhazian soldiers had been killed and 40 wounded in fighting around the town in the previous 24 hours. "The past 24 hours have witnessed the most vicious fighting so far in the military conflict between Georgia and Abkhazia," the television said.

In other trouble spots in the former Soviet Union, farmers clashed in the Crimean peninsula in Ukraine, where a growing nationalist movement is demanding the territory be returned to Russia, which controlled it until the 1950s. It was the first report of ethnic violence on the peninsula.

ITAR-TASS News Agency said the clash culminated months of tension over the effort by Tatars to build a settlement in a peach orchard on the Alushta State Farm. When state farm workers destroyed their homes Thursday, the Tatars retaliated, leading to clashes that left 66 people injured, including 24 policemen.

The Ukrainian prosecutor was investigating the clash, ITAR-TASS said.

In Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan continued to attack the village of Pichan in the disputed enclave, but the attack was repulsed, the enclave's legislature reported.

Azerbaijan also fired Grad rockets at the Lachin corridor that connects Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia. Fighting was reported around the corridor Thursday, the ITAR-TASS News Agency said, and two Azerbaijanis and one Armenian were reported killed.

Russia has sent 50 observers to the conflict zone, and observers from other former Soviet republics are expected. But Russian

President Boris Yeltsin said Thursday that he opposed sending Russian troops to serve as peacekeepers in Nagorno-Karabakh.

"The Azerbaijani-Armenian confrontation has assumed such an acute form that it would be a mistake to dispatch the troops to Nagorno-Karabakh," Khikmet Khadij-Zade, Azerbaijani envoy to Moscow, quoted a message from Mr. Yeltsin as saying.

Hundreds flee fighting in Tajik flashpoint

Fierce fighting broke out in southern Tajikistan Saturday, sending hundreds of terrified refugees fleeing from a battle zone rocked by tank and artillery fire.

Correspondents came under sniper fire about one kilometre from Kurgan-Tyube, where tribal and Muslim radical gunmen have fought for weeks against forces from neighbouring Khatlon region loyal to ousted former Communist President Rakhmon Nabiyev.

"They killed my husband. The Khatlon forces are all around us," said Mahabbat Adilova, one of hundreds of refugees on the road leading from the town.

To the crash of heavy artillery fire, refugees left the town on foot, dragging makeshift carts piled high with blankets, firewood, carpets, kettles and anything they could rescue from the town, now covered in a dense pall of smoke.

"There is serious fighting in and around the town. Eighteen people have been killed today," said Alim Dayimov, a pro-Islamic fighter dressed in combat fatigues on the main road to Kurgan-Tyube, about 80 kilometres south of the capital Dushanbe.

The death toll he gave could not be independently confirmed.

ANC leader expects full talks this year

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — A top ANC official said Saturday he was optimistic full-scale political talks would resume this year.

Cyril Ramaphosa, secretary-general of the African National Congress (ANC), also said he expected multiracial elections next year for an interim government that would write a new constitution to end white minority rule.

The ANC and President F.W. de Klerk's government resumed formal talks last week aimed at restarting South Africa's reform process, which stalled in May due to disputes on the transition to multiracial rule.

The ANC broke off talks with the government a month later to protest chronic violence in black townships. Police said five armed men stole three shotguns, 10 pistols and 20 rounds of ammunition Saturday from a police station after tying up two officers on duty.

Attacks with automatic rifles, pistols and other guns have become common in South Africa's chronic political violence and crime in black townships.

While policemen regularly come under attack and have their weapons stolen, there have been few bold assaults on police stations.

Mr. De Klerk and ANC leader Nelson Mandela agreed last week on ways to combat spiraling violence, leading the ANC to announce it was ready to resume full-scale political negotiations.

But three conservative leaders of black homelands then rejected the ANC-government agreements as an attempt to hijack the negotiation process. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, head of the KwaZulu homeland and the Zulu-dominated Inkatha Freedom Party, also broke off talks with Mr. De Klerk's government.

Mr. De Klerk said Saturday the government-ANC agreements were not intended to prevent other parties from having a full role in negotiating the nation's future.

Mr. Ramaphosa said he believed negotiations involving all parties would begin by year's end, followed by elections next year for a Constituent Assembly to write a new constitution. The ANC accuses KwaZulu and other conservative homelands of prohibiting free political activity. Mr. Ramaphosa called free political activity a prerequisite for the nation's first elections involving blacks.

Under apartheid, South Africa's white government set up 10 black homelands that separated blacks along tribal lines. The government and the ANC agree the homeland system should be dismantled.

But Mr. Buthelezi and other conservative homeland leaders want to keep their power and support a strong federal system of government.

Relief flight arrives in Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (AP) — A U.S. military cargo plane landed in Sarajevo Saturday, the first relief flight since the mercy airlift was suspended a month ago.

The airlift was suspended Sept. 3 after an Italian cargo plane was shot down and its four crewmen were killed.

The U.S. plane, carrying 10 tonnes of food, landed at about 12:40 p.m. (1140 GMT), officials of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said by telephone from Sarajevo Airport. Another plane was to land about 50 minutes later, they said.

"The resumption of the airlift today is the first good news from former Yugoslavia that my office has been able to give you in a long time," Sadako Ogata, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, told a news conference in Geneva.

She said that three U.S. C-130 transport planes would take about 30 tonnes of package meals into Sarajevo.

Mrs. Ogata warned leaders of the warring factions that they must abide by their commitments to assure safe passage for the relief flights.

"We hold them personally responsible," she said.

Relief officials fear that hundreds of thousands of people could die in Bosnia this winter because the relief effort has fallen so far behind. They have been able to ship few supplies overland because of the fighting.

UNHCR officials in Sarajevo said the prepared U.S. meals would be a "very nice change"

from the standard fare of wheat flour, rice and other basics that have been coming in overland.

They said the pace of land convoys would also be stepped up, with two expected to arrive in Sarajevo Sunday.

UNHCR spokeswoman Sylvia Foa said the agency hoped that France would send planes Monday to assist in the relief effort.

The civil war broke out after Bosnia's majority Muslims and Croats voted for independence from Yugoslavia on Feb. 29. The republic's Serbs, backed by the Serb-led Yugoslav army, are fighting to divide the republic along ethnic lines and unite their portion with Serbia.

The Serbs have captured two-thirds of the republic. The Bosnian Health Ministry says at least 14,000 people have been killed. The agency said Friday that 32 people were killed and 151 wounded in the 24-hour period ending at midday, including 15 dead and 101 wounded in Sarajevo.

Bosnian officials said Saturday that overnight shelling of Sarajevo killed three more people, including a child, and wounded 21.

On Friday, Serb warplanes raided Jajce and Borjano, two Muslim-held cities about 60 kilometres (50 miles) north of Sarajevo, the Bosnian military said. There was no word on casualties.

Such air raids have prompted Western allies to urge the United Nations to set up a "no-fly" zone

for combat flights over Bosnia. President George Bush said Friday he backed the proposal, and that the United States was ready to enforce it with military action if necessary.

Bosnia's representative at the United Nations, Mohammad Sacirbey, said Belgrade agreed last month at meetings in London that no military aircraft should fly over Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"Obviously that commitment has not been honoured. ... And now it is time for the international community to step up and enforce that commitment. If it doesn't our civilians will continue to be slaughtered and Serb aircraft flying over our country will be utilised as another tool of ethnic cleansing," he told reporters.

The Serbs were unavailable for comment late Friday when Mr. Bush's announcement was made. But Maj. Gen. Zivimir Ninkovic, commander of the air force of the self-proclaimed Serb Republic in Bosnia-Herzegovina, said in an interview with the Associated Press two weeks ago that Serb fighters "are ready to fight if the skies above their territory are closed."

Peace envoys in Geneva have obtained an agreement from the major warring parties to demilitarise parts of Sarajevo, but casualties continue to be high around the republic and the flow of refugees is accelerating.

In the Banja Luka area of northern Bosnia, a U.N. relief agency said it feared 200,000 people would flee in coming weeks

Savimbi contests Angolan poll results, threatens war

LUANDA, Angola (AP) — Former rebel leader Jonas Savimbi Saturday said partial results from Angola's first multi-party elections were fraudulent and issued a veiled threat to resume the nation's 16-year civil war.

Partial returns from the National Electoral Council gave President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, leader of the once-Marxist MPLA, 60 per cent against 31.5 for Mr. Savimbi.

"If (Dos Santos) wants the process to stop and the situation to deteriorate in the country he should continue on this path," Mr. Savimbi said on his UNITA party's radio station.

"It is easy to start a conflict, it is difficult to prolong and win it ... there are men and women who are prepared to give their lives for the country to be ours."

Mr. Savimbi and Mr. Dos Santos signed a peace accord in May 1991, ending a 16-year war fueled by cold war tensions that killed 350,000 people and reduced this oil-rich nation to desperate poverty.

The two also agreed to the internationally monitored balloting that took place Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mr. Savimbi accused Mr. Dos Santos' MPLA of stealing ballot boxes and inflating election returns.

"The MPLA is not winning and cannot win," Mr. Savimbi said. He warned that unless the situation changed, "UNITA will take a position that will deeply affect the situation in this country."

In an apparent reference to the United Nations ceasefire moni-

toring team and 800 international observers who covered the elections, Mr. Savimbi said, "it will not depend on any international organisation to say that the elections were free and fair, it will only depend on the observations of the Angolan people."

A Western diplomat said the speech caused "great concern and could seriously threaten the peace process." He asked not to be identified.

Most of the international observers said voting had run relatively smoothly.

"What impressed me most that there was no violence and no significant fraud," Jeffrey Millington head of the U.S. liaison office in Luanda, said on state television Friday. "The Angolan people should be very proud."

The United States supported UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, in the civil war against the MPLA, which was backed by Soviet arms and Cuban troops.

Earlier this year, Mr. Savimbi's support in Washington was rocked by the defection of two leading UNITA members who accused him of massacring dissidents and their families.

On a recent visit to Luanda, U.S. Undersecretary for African Affairs Herman Cohen warned, "any government that comes to power through a coup d'etat would suffer total isolation."

For the past two years, Mr. Dos Santos has led the MPLA, or Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, away from Marxism, paying the way for the peace accords with UNITA and the elections.



Jonas Savimbi

According to the latest partial election results, the MPLA led the legislative part of the election by 62.8 to 27 for UNITA.

In his speech from Luanda on UNITA's Voice of the Black Rooster Radio, Mr. Savimbi appealed for party militants to remain calm.

"Each one should remain at his post and accomplish the instructions that he or she has received," he said.

Most of the armed units of the MPLA and UNITA have been formally demobilised under U.N. supervision.

On the eve of the election, the remainder were placed under the control of an International Ceasefire Monitoring Commission including U.S., Russian and Portuguese officials.

However, both sides exchanged accusations of hiding arms and troops from the United Nations.

The civil war killed at least 350,000 people and devastated the oil-rich economy of this once-prosperous Portuguese colony.

Kohl denounces neo-Nazi terror, tells east Germans to have faith

SCHWERIN, Germany — Chancellor Helmut Kohl marked the second anniversary of German unity Saturday by denouncing rising neo-Nazi terror as "a disgrace" and reassured east Germans about their economic future.

Several new rightist attacks cast a shadow over the celebrations.

The anniversary of the Oct. 3, 1990 unification, was marked by sober reflection nationwide over the progress Germany has made in melding two disparate cultures.

It comes against the backdrop of almost daily violence against foreigners and economic problems brought on by the global recession and the costs of bailing out the impoverished east.

Mr. Kohl, in remarks prepared in advance of a nationally televised Unity Day address Saturday evening, tried to convince Germans to show more tolerance.

"Hostility against foreigners and anti-Semitism are a disgrace for our land," Mr. Kohl said. "Such perpetrators of violence

must feel the full force of the law like any other criminal."

Mr. Kohl and federal officials gathered to celebrate unity in a spectacular 19th century castle and other historic buildings in this 800-year-old northeastern German city.

Schwerin, with a population of more than 100,000, is the capital of the severely depressed Mecklenburg-West Pomerania state, one of the five new states formed from the former east Germany when the two nations unified.

Appointment of unknown as new finance minister worries Brazil

BRASILIA (AP) — One of acting President Itamar Franco's first appointments — of a relative unknown as finance minister — shocked observers and sent the stock market plunging and gold and dollar prices up.

Mr. Franco became the interim leader of Latin America's largest country Friday, after Fernando Collor De Mello was impeached Tuesday. Mr. Franco will serve for at least 180 days, while the Senate tries Mr. Collor. A conviction was expected, in which case Mr. Franco would serve out Mr. Collor's term, until 1995.

Mr. Franco appointed Rep. Gustavo Krause to replace Mar-

lio Marques Moreira, the architect of Brazil's recent agreements with the International Monetary Fund and foreign banks on repaying Brazil's crushing \$115 billion foreign debt.

Mr. Krause's appointment dismayed and worried many businessmen and labour leaders.

"He is unknown and lacks experience in areas that will fall under his jurisdiction, mainly those that have to do with the international financial market," said Mailson Da Nobrega, a former finance minister.

"It was a surprise. We can't deny that we wanted someone

from Sao Paulo," Carlos Eduardo Ferreira, president of the influential Federation of Industries of Sao Paulo State, said in a TV interview.

Sao Paulo is Brazil's industrial and financial nerve centre. Ferreira said the business community was expecting the appointment of Rep. Jose Serra, an economist respected at home and abroad.

"The country needed someone well-known as finance minister, someone who could encourage the public, the nation's workers," said Luis Antonio Medeiros, head of the powerful Metalworkers Union in Sao Paulo.

Dollar prices on the black market rose 2 per cent and gold prices jumped 3.4 per cent. Investors generally take refuge in the dollar and in gold in times of uncertainty.

Another indicator of the nervousness was the stock market, which dove 7.9 per cent in Sao Paulo and 5.7 per cent in Rio De Janeiro.

Mr. Collor, Brazil's first freely elected leader in 29 years, is accused of receiving \$6.5 million from a slush fund run by his 1989 campaign treasurer and close friend, Paulo Cesar Farias.

He stepped down for trial Friday, after Sen. Dirceu Carneiro officially delivered the suspension notification.

Perot hits campaign trail, calls for 'shared sacrifice'

DALLAS (AP) — Ross Perot is pressing his reborn presidential candidacy, spending over \$1 million on television ads and asserting his appeal would fail "if the American people are too soft" to subscribe to stiff economic proposals.

"There will be pain everywhere. It's like World War II. We had shared sacrifice," Mr. Perot said of his programme for deep spending cuts and higher taxes.

"We'll all have to do it together. I can't do it for you," Mr. Perot said in an interview with Barbara Walters on ABC Television, one day after he announced he'd changed his mind and would go ahead with the independent presidential challenge he abandoned in mid-July.

Mr. Perot insisted that voters would support his proposals for a 50-cent-a-gallon hike in gasoline taxes, higher income taxes for those making over \$55,000 annually and cuts in social security benefits, because "we're talking about fair share sacrifice."

Although he is a distant third in polls, Mr. Perot said of his prospects of election: "That's up to the American people ... I am more than willing to go down in flames if the American people are too soft to face it."

"But nobody will ever be able to say I didn't lay it out straight for them," Mr. Perot said in the ABC interview.

President George Bush, interviewed on Houston's KRIV-TV, declined to say how Mr. Perot's late entry would affect his own campaign strategy from now until Nov. 3. "We don't know. So we say, 'the water's fine. Come on

in."

"I expect he would join the debates. And then he has to do what everybody else does: Talk about his plans for education or anti-crime legislation or North American free trade agreement or world peace."

Mr. Perot traveled to New York to tape the interview with Ms. Walters in advance of the show and spent more than \$1 million or more on network ads to air next week.

Traveling without the secret service escorts the other candidates have, he answered a few questions from the front seat of his limousine as he left ABC and reporters crowded around.

Would he debate? "If they invite me."

What were his immediate plans? "Go home. Have supper."

Mr. Perot began his latest campaign as a decided underdog, with only 7 per cent support in a poll that gave Bill Clinton a 17-point lead over President Bush.

Mr. Clinton's 52 per cent to 35 per cent lead came in a national tracking poll that Cable News Network and USA Today began Monday, CNN reported. Gallup surveyed about 1,000 registered voters by phone over three days. The margin of potential sampling error was 3 percentage points.

Mr. Perot's 7 per cent was his lowest in recent national polls. CNN reported that 72 per cent of their respondents said there was "no chance" they would vote for him.

In contrast, just 32 per cent said there was no chance they would vote for Mr. Clinton and

48 per cent said there was no chance they would vote for Mr. Bush, CNN said.

Mr. Perot had the highest unfavourable rating of the three presidential candidates, 66 per cent, compared with Mr. Bush's 56 per cent and Mr. Clinton's 38 per cent, CNN said.

The network said it planned daily reports of its tracking poll through the election. Since the sample from any one night would be too small to be reliable, each day's results will be a fresh three-day average.

Such polls can pick up sudden shifts of opinion faster than traditional polls, but experts caution that changes in the numbers due to sampling error and other polling effects can create an exaggerated sense of movement in the race.

In a separate development, Friday, Republicans prevented the U.S. Senate from passing a broad anti-crime bill that included a waiting period for purchasing handguns.

"This is it," the bill's primary author, Democratic Sen. Joseph Biden said, pronouncing the bill dead as sponsors failed on a 55-43 vote to get the 60 votes needed to break a 10-month filibuster by Republican leaders and opponents of gun control.

"We're going to adjourn without having done a crime bill," Sen. Biden said as Congress worked towards recess early next week.

With leaders of the Fraternal Order of Police and other police groups acting as mediators, Sen. Biden and Attorney General William Barr had exchanged propos-

als until 2 a.m. local time (0600 GMT) seeking a compromise. None was found.

President Bush had said earlier this week he was willing to show "flexibility" on the so-called Brady Bill gun control measure, but only if the package also made it harder for death row inmates to delay their executions through appeals.

The 500-page bill was passed by the House last November and needed only a favourable vote in the Senate to be sent to Mr. Bush. Republicans, however, then and again last March denied sponsors the 60 votes under the Senate's parliamentary rules to get a final vote on the package.

The administration and other opponents said their chief objection was to a provision overturning recent Supreme Court decisions that restricted the ability of death row inmates to repeatedly file habeas corpus to delay their executions.

"This is not about habeas corpus," Sen. Biden said. "What this is about is guns. It's about Sarah Brady and her desire to keep guns out of the hands of convicted felons ... and the power of the National Rifle Association."

The Brady Bill provision is named after Mrs. Brady's husband, Jim Brady, the former White House Press Secretary who was seriously wounded in the 1981 assassination attempt on President Reagan. It would require gun dealers to delay the sale of a handgun to a purchaser for five days so that police could check whether the buyer has a felony record.

COLUMN

Japan okays made-in-USA sushi

OSAKA, Japan (AP) — An American-made version of a Japanese national delicacy is to go on the market after government officials settled a squabble over rice imports. Fuji Matsuo, president of the sushi Boy moto, said that full-scale shipments of California-made sushi would begin in November. This would enable him to sell the sushi — strips of fish on rice balls — at two-thirds the going price. Matsumoto's 44 outlets 150,000 pieces of sushi a day. "This marks a step forward in the battle to import rice," Mr. Matsumoto told a news conference. "I look forward to further progress being made to liberalise imports in the hope that Japanese rice producers will be made more competitive — to a level where they will one day be exporting Japanese rice to other countries."

Brigitte Bardot wins donkey castration suit

NICE, France (AP) — An appeals court has ruled that retired film star Brigitte Bardot was right to arrange the castration of a donkey boarding at her home in St. Tropez. Bardot, an animal rights crusader whose private villa is home to hundreds of animals, had Charly, the donkey, castrated in 1989 when he threatened to mount her female donkey, Mimosa. Charly had been left in her care by Jean-Pierre Manivet, a Lyon businessman. He filed charges against Bardot after discovering his animal had been gelded. The court on Thursday threw out the charges against Ms. Bardot and ordered Mr. Manivet to pay Bardot 5,000 francs (\$1,000) for "discrediting her efforts on behalf of animal rights." On Friday, state-run television Channel France 3 announced that Ms. Bardot's animal rights crusade would return to the airwaves with a series of four specials, starting Oct. 25. She pulled out of her arrangement with privately owned Channel JF1 several months ago, complaining that it was airing her series too late in the evening, usually starting about 11 P.M. France 3 said the new series would air at 8:30 p.m. the first show is to focus on bunting.

Women's group protests talking Barbie's words

WASHINGTON (AP) — Girls aren't good at math that's the message that Mattel Toys is sending out with its newest Barbie dolls, complains a national women's group. The American Association of University Women demanded the immediate recall of all teen talk Barbie dolls, claiming the dolls' words perpetuate sexist stereotypes. One of the doll's phrases: "Math class is tough." "Barbie has been criticised in the past for presenting girls with an unobtainable model of female physical perfection," said Sharon Schuster, the association's president. "By reinforcing the dated stereotype that math is too hard for girls, Barbie can undermine girls' confidence in their mental ability to do math," Ms. Schuster added. "Why can't Barbie say 'I'm good at math,' or 'math class is fun?'" Mattel, based in El Segundo, California, never intended to send the wrong message, said Mattel spokeswoman Donna Gibbs. Ms. Gibbs said the dolls also say many positive things like "let's start a business," "I love school, don't you?" "I'm going to be a veterinarian." "Maintain no way meant to discourage girls from pursuing education in the math and science fields," she said. "If Barbie talks in the future, we will take into account these concerns." Each talking Barbie utters four phrases, randomly selected during production from a list of 270. The idea is to make each Barbie doll unique.

Live christmas trees promoted to fight smog

MEXICO CITY (R) — Another sign of the times in Mexico City: Environmentalists are asking people to use live Christmas trees which can be replanted to help alleviate the ever-worsening smog. As in many other parts of the world, Mexicans traditionally have used a freshly chopped evergreen as the focal point for Christmas celebrations in this predominantly Roman Catholic country. But the tradition only adds to Mexico's mammoth environmental problems because it destroys forests and reduces the number of trees available to help cleanse the air, environmentalists say.

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